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AGENDA

Treated like children

On Sunday night, when the first guests left the dinner which Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu hosted in Jerusalem's honor of US House Speaker Newt Gingrich's delegation, Netanyahu convened his inner cabinet for a special meeting. This was its third meeting that day and the media reported that the ministers allegedly discussed the second and third redeployments, against the background of ongoing contacts with the US.

At the end of this third meeting, however, the ministers departed without having reached any decisions, and with the heavy feeling that Netanyahu had been playing group dynamics with them.

Most of the discussion was devoted to establishing direct channels with the Palestinians to be headed by National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon and Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

While the ministers were discussing the US proposal to place responsibility for the negotiations in Sharon's hands, Netanyahu's adviser Yitzhak Molcho told them that it was late and he had to get home. A short while later, Netanyahu also requested that the meeting be closed.

See AGENDA, Page 6



Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, with his wife Sara, stops to talk with journalists during his tour of the Great Wall of China, north of Beijing yesterday. Netanyahu was on the third day of a four-day visit to China. (AP)

Inner cabinet angry PM kept it in dark

By JAY BUSHINSKY, HILAL KUTTLER, and news agencies

Discontent is growing in the inner cabinet over Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's apparent failure to keep its members informed about the various trial balloons he purportedly floated for US eyes only.

Members are also upset at his alleged reluctance to adopt a definitive position on the depth of the IDF's next pullback in the West Bank.

A political source familiar with the inner cabinet's deliberations said that pressure is building for a decision on redeployment to be taken, especially from National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon.

The inner cabinet consists of Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky, Sharon, and Netanyahu.

Referring to Netanyahu's reported post-midnight meeting Monday with Palestinian Legislative Council Speaker Ahmed Qurei,

which evidently was not mentioned in any of the inner cabinet's three sessions on Sunday, the source said: "Netanyahu is harming his own credibility, not only in the eyes of the cabinet as a whole. The cabinet also convened during the 24 hours that preceded the prime minister's departure for China."

The source commented sarcastically that "Netanyahu acquired a four-and-a-half day respite" by flying to Beijing, implying that a showdown is awaiting him upon his return.

Instead of adopting a comprehensive redeployment plan based on geographical, demographic, and strategic realities, Netanyahu was said to have used the three sessions for a briefing on his discussions in the US with administration officials and American Jewish leaders.

In China yesterday, Netanyahu toured the Great Wall. He noted that it took 2,000 years to build the wall, and chuckled for the cameras as he urged Israelis to give him at least two years to build Har Homa.

Netanyahu's foreign policy adviser Uzi Arad was due to fly

from Beijing to Washington for talks with US officials related to the continuing negotiations.

Meanwhile, US State Department spokesman James Rubin yesterday criticized the aborted Jewish construction in the Old City of Jerusalem's Muslim Quarter, calling it the "kind of unilateral and provocative step that undermines an environment necessary for any Israeli-Palestinian reconciliation."

"We're also very concerned by the way Palestinians in this fashion should never have occurred. Handling this kind of situation in this manner is not acceptable," he added.

At the same time, Rubin said, "we commend" Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani for apologizing to the Palestinians.

He noted that the US has "also been informed" that Israel was dismantling the structures. When pressed, he said that "certainly we're pleased" about the development.

Rubin initiated a meeting with the Israeli press corps on Tuesday evening, after he made remarks last

week that the reporters and the Israeli Embassy interpreted as disparaging toward the Israeli media.

In his daily briefing last Thursday, Rubin was asked about an Israeli press report that Washington would wait one week before publicly assigning blame for the freeze in peace talks. Rubin responded: "I find it not very constructive to get into a response every time the Israeli media ejaculates some new alleged fact."

Embassy press counselor Gadi Baltiansky subsequently wrote to Rubin to complain about his generalization and about his use of "inappropriate language when characterizing Israeli journalists from a stage that is watched and respected throughout the world."

Rubin opened Tuesday's meeting by producing a copy of Webster's New World Dictionary that first listed the Latin meaning of the verb in question as "to throw out, [as in] a dart, a missile," which he said the Israeli press sometimes did when reporting on something without first checking the facts.

See CABINET, Page 2

Tension high in Lebanon

By DAVID RUDGE

Tension was high in Lebanon last night following a mortar attack along the northern border. The mortar shells exploded near an IDF post on the border in the Western Galilee.

There were no casualties in that attack. It was believed that most of the rounds fell inside Lebanese territory.

Hizbullah announced that its earlier attacks on IDF outposts along the border were "a stern warning to the Zionists against breaches of the [Grapes of Wrath] understandings by continued targeting of villages and civilians [north of the security zone]."

The statement was issued on Hizbullah's radio station and Lebanese newspapers yesterday. Earlier in the day, IAF helicopter gunships hit a Hizbullah mortar position as its crew was in the process of firing. A number of Hizbullah gunmen were believed to have been killed or wounded in the helicopter attack.

The IDF Spokesman said the pilots reported accurate hits on the target, in Barasheet village north of the zone, and that all planes returned safely.

Hizbullah gunmen also fired mortars at South Lebanese Army and IDF positions, mainly in the security zone's western sector. There were no casualties and IDF gunners returned fire.

Some of the mortars fell in the western sector during OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine's visit there yesterday to inspect the scene of a

clash the previous day between Hizbullah gunmen and SLA troops.

Initial inquiries revealed that a squad of three Hizbullah gunmen had penetrated the zone and took cover in a house in Atiri village. They were equipped with explosive devices and an array of weapons, including a submachine gun fitted with a silencer.

The gunmen were spotted by a SLA patrol, who charged them and forced them to flee. At least two members of the squad were believed to have been killed in the subsequent chase.

At the same time, Hizbullah mortar crews laid down a barrage of fire to cover the retreat of the infiltration squad, leading to heavy exchanges that continued until late Tuesday night.

Two SLA soldiers were killed and three others wounded in the mortar fire, which IDF observers identified as originating in Barasheet, Hadatha and Yatar villages north of the zone - in breach of the Grapes of Wrath understandings.

IAF warplanes and helicopter gunships also hit a mortar crew operating near Yatar village on Tuesday, killing at least one gunman there and wounding several others.

Lebanese security sources reported that Hizbullah fired nearly 300 mortar rounds during the Tuesday, compared to around half that amount fired by IDF and SLA gunners.

A Lebanese observer said it

appeared from the statistics that the IDF was trying to prevent an escalation of the fighting.

Meanwhile, the Grapes of Wrath monitoring group concluded its deliberations into previous complaints from Israel and Lebanon over breaches of the understandings in earlier fighting.

The five-nation committee determined that Lebanon had twice breached the understandings in incidents in which gunmen fired from inside villages north of the zone, thereby endangering local residents and their property.

The group also found that Lebanon had breached the understandings in a separate incident in which two mortar rounds exploded inside Israeli territory.

The monitoring group's discussions took place in the shadow of the heavy exchanges in the region on Tuesday - the first time there has been such heavy fighting while the committee has been meeting.

The committee found that the SLA had also breached the understandings by firing at villages north of the zone on two occasions, but noted that this was in response to Hizbullah attacks originating from within the same villages, Barasheet and Hadatha.

The situation in the region and along the northern border remained tense last night, and some Galilee residents reportedly decided to spend the night in security rooms as a precaution.

The monitoring group called on all the sides to give priority to protecting civilians.

Ateret Cohananim vacates Old City structures

By ELI WOHLGELER

Ateret Cohananim began to vacate the property inside Herod's Gate in Jerusalem's Old City late last night, and said that the Antiquities Authority would dig the site and maintain guards there.

Director Matti Dan said future plans call for the building of 12 apartments and a dormitory for 400 students and for a yeshiva to be built on the site in the name of Haim Kerman, who was stabbed to death nearby on May 6.

The families living in the temporary shacks that had been erected overnight Monday were to have vacated the property by 7 p.m. last night, under orders from Mayor Ehud Olmert, who said the shacks were illegal.

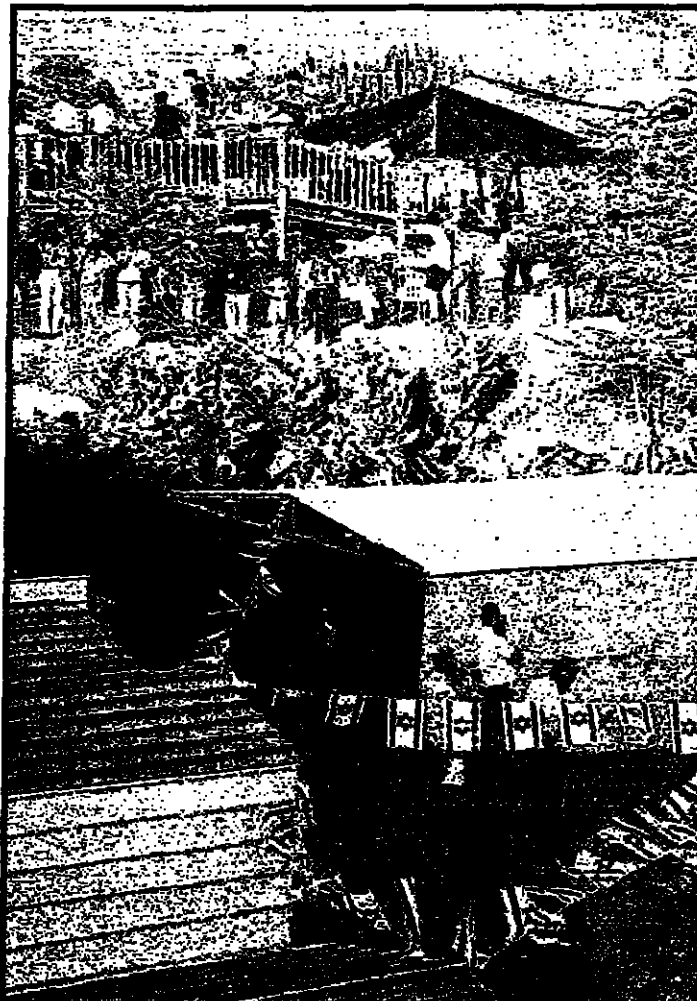
Olmert said that while he encourages Jewish housing throughout Jerusalem, the shacks were built without the required approval of the Israel Lands Administration. "We all want construction in Jerusalem, but we are strong enough to build Jerusalem without being the ones that back the breaking of the law," he told Israel Radio.

MK Benny Elon, who arrived at the site last night, criticized Olmert's handling of the situation, saying his use of zoning laws to tear down the shack was "cynical."

"I want to see in the Knesset, in my Law Committee, how they enforce the law on the 3,500 big complexes of buildings that Arabs are building illegally here, not only without licenses and permits, but how as a principle they are not asking [the city] for a license and permit, and are just taking a license from the Orient House," he said. "With the same force, I want to see him enforce the legal system on all of those illegal buildings."

The erection of the temporary metal shacks touched off a wild melee on Tuesday between police and protesters, who included members of the Palestinian Legislative Council. The PLC members announced that their presence there was an official meeting of the council, in fact in Jerusalem.

The government responded yes-



Members of Ateret Cohananim pray outside their tin shacks before yesterday's evacuation deadline. (Brian Hender)

Bill to abolish direct election of PM passes preliminary Knesset reading

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

The bill to abolish direct election of the prime minister, presented by Uzi Landau (Likud) and Yossi Beilin (Labor), yesterday passed preliminary reading in the Knesset 50-45, with one abstention.

Support for the bill crossed party lines, with many Likud and Labor MKs voting for it in what was seen

as a rebellion of the back benchers against their party leaders, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Ehud Barak, both of whom are strongly against changing the direct election law.

Netanyahu, who tried to persuade Likud MKs not to support the bill by telephone from China, said there is no chance it will pass first reading.

He was echoed by senior figures from both Likud and Labor, who said it was doubtful the bill will get the required support of 61 MKs.

Eleven Likud members - including National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon and MKs Dan Meridor, Ze'ev Begin, Ehud Olmert, Ruby Rivlin, and Michael Kleiner - supported the bill. Sharon persuaded other MKs to

support the bill, which he said is of major importance for democracy and proper government.

Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav and Communications Minister Limor Livnat were reportedly in the Knesset building during the vote, but did not take part.

Haim Ramon (Labor), who voted against the bill, said it was "the victory of the dinosaurs, the veterans of both parties and their mental heirs."

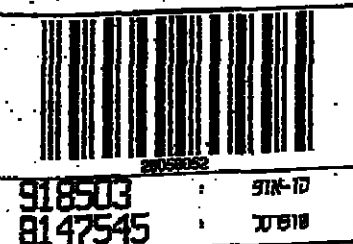
Among the Labor MKs who voted in favor were Shimon Peres, Efraim Sneh, Dalia Itzik, and Yael Dayan.

Most Likud and Labor MKs are in favor of abolishing direct elections, which are expected to reduce the power of the major parties even further in the next elections to the

benefit of the smaller parties. Netanyahu and Barak, however, are interested in preserving them, as they enable them to get the votes of people who do not necessarily support their respective parties.

Former prime ministers Peres and Yitzhak Shamir, founding members of the Council for Parliamentary Democracy, expressed deep satisfaction with the outcome of the vote.

"This was the first salvo in a sustained campaign to repeal the system," said Dr. Arik Carmon, director of the Israel Democracy Institute and a founder of the Council for Parliamentary Democracy. "A majority of Israelis support this change. We will fight until its final passage."



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NEWS

in brief

Clinton aides to testify in Lewinsky case

A US federal judge formally ordered two presidential aides to tell a grand jury about their discussions with President Bill Clinton about Monica Lewinsky, calling it "some of the most relevant and important evidence" in the investigation, according to a document released last night.

In rejecting the president's efforts to block the testimony with an executive privilege claim, US District Judge Norma Hollaway Johnson did give the White House a partial victory. The judge concluded that a president's conversations with aides about such a matter can be covered by the privilege. But she added that Whitewater prosecutor Kenneth Starr had proven that the testimony of aides Bruce Lindsey and Sidney Blumenthal was so essential to his probe that it had to be furnished despite the claim of privilege. The order compels Lindsey and Blumenthal to testify. AP

Naval officer dies of injuries

LTJG Dan Ezri, 23, of Shavei Zion, who was critically injured in a freak accident at sea in March, died of his injuries and was buried yesterday. He had been knocked down by a large wave as his ship was sailing in stormy seas off Ashkelon on March 28. Arleh O'Sullivan

Arab woman arrested for stabbing student

The General Security Service, with the help of the Jerusalem Police's minority division, recently arrested an Arab woman from Samaria suspected of stabbing a 15-year-old yeshiva student outside Damascus Gate on Shabbat as he was heading to the Western Wall to pray on January 31, a police spokesman said yesterday.

The woman confessed to the stabbing and re-enacted it, the spokesman said. Eli Wohlgerlerner

UN extends Golan observers mandate

The Security Council yesterday decided unanimously to keep UN military observers on the Golan Heights for six more months and warned that tensions could erupt there at any time until Middle East parties forge a comprehensive peace.

The comment, made by council President Njuguna Moses Mahugu of Kenya, appeared directed at US congressional critics who have called for the mission to be closed because of relative calm in the Golan area. AP

Jordanian FM says he was misquoted

Jordanian Foreign Minister Jawad Anani notified Israel's embassy in Amman that he was "misquoted" by Israel Radio's English-language service, this time with regard to King Hussein's relationship with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Anani said he told an interviewer the king "is not on non-talking terms" with Netanyahu, but the word, "non" was omitted. The Jordan Times yesterday carried a denial and clarification of this point by Information Minister Abdullah Nasur. Jay Bushinsky

Iran's Khatami plans UN New York visit

Iranian President Mohammad Khatami is planning to visit New York to address the UN General Assembly in September, diplomatic sources said yesterday.

"President Khatami is planning to speak on behalf of the Islamic countries," one source in Tehran said. Khatami is currently chairman of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), the world's largest Moslem body, representing more than one billion Moslems in 55 countries. Reuters

Gingrich meets Arafat in Ramallah

By Margot Dukewitch and Mohammed Najib

US House Speaker Newt Gingrich visited Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat in Ramallah yesterday, and both sides appeared satisfied with the encounter.

This, despite recent PA anger over Gingrich's support of Israel's stance towards the peace process.

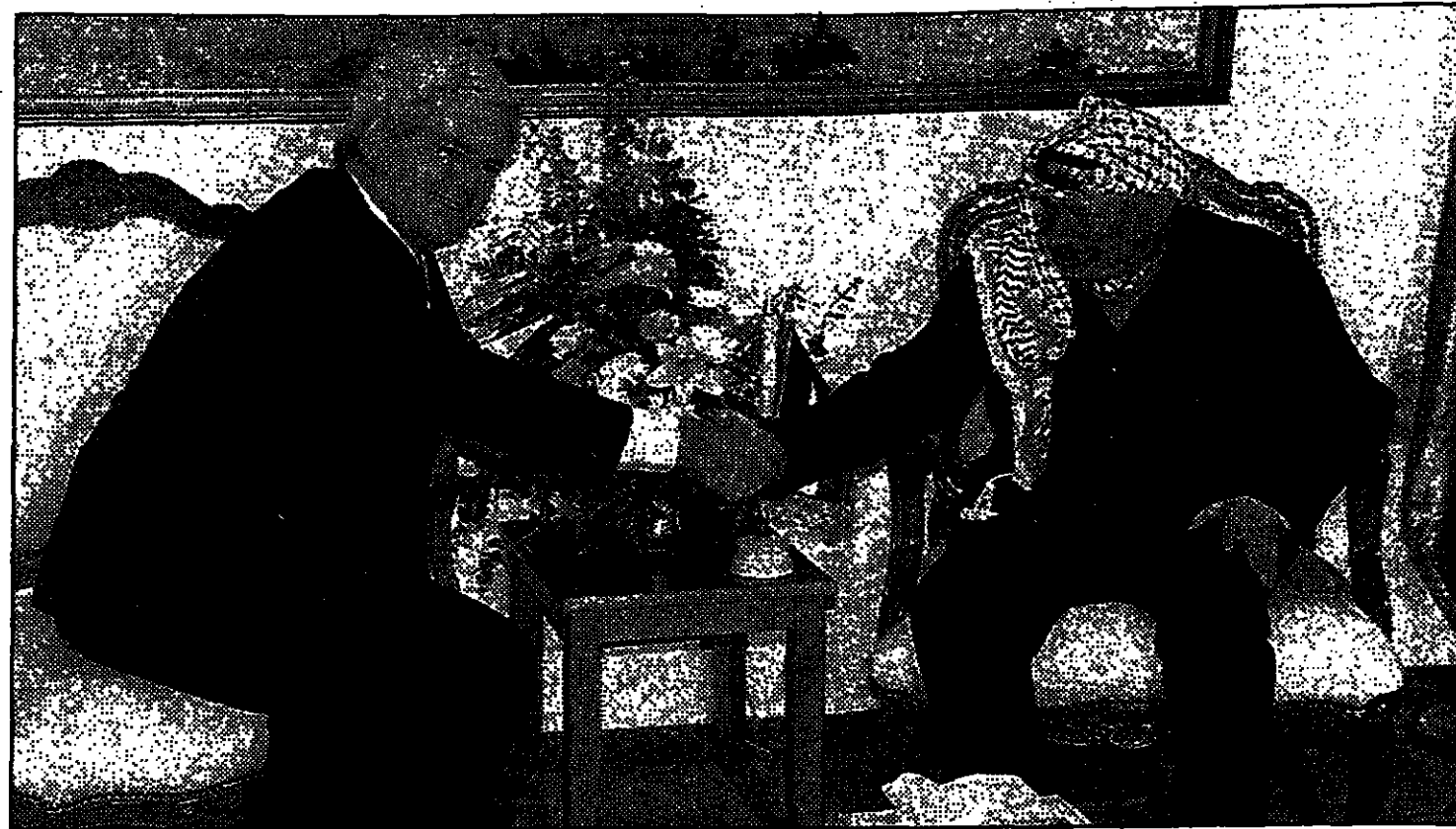
PA Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Nabil Shaath said the meeting marked the opening of a dialogue between the PA and members of Congress who are known as supporters of Israel. Gingrich has been heading a 20-member visiting congressional delegation.

"We explained frankly our position regarding Gingrich's declarations about the future of Jerusalem, which will be the capital of the Palestinian state," Shaath said. According to Shaath, Gingrich told the Palestinians that Jerusalem's future will be specified in negotiations. "This is a position we are hearing from Mr. Gingrich for the first time," he said.

Gingrich, however, reiterated to reporters his support for the construction of the US embassy to Israel in Jerusalem. "We do have a law that says there will be an embassy in Jerusalem."

He told the Knesset on Tuesday that Jerusalem should remain the united and eternal capital of Israel.

Gingrich said after meeting Arafat: "We are here because the US has a very great interest that every child in Ramallah and every child in Tel Aviv live in peace,



US House Speaker Newt Gingrich shakes hands yesterday with PA leader Yasser Arafat at the beginning of their meeting in Ramallah. (AP)

freedom and security," he said.

He suggested setting up an internship that will allow Palestinians to visit Washington and invited members of the Palestinian Legislative Council to come to the US capital.

PA negotiator Saeb Erekat absented himself from the meeting

in response to a request made by Gingrich after Erekat said that a planned visit by the Georgia Republican to the embassy construction site would trigger violence.

AP adds: After meeting with the Palestinian leaders, Gingrich and

his delegation went to neighboring Jordan for meetings with Jordan's King Hussein. A group of US senators was in Damascus to talk with Syrian leaders.

In Jordan, Gingrich held separate meetings with King Hussein and his brother and heir, Crown Prince Hassan. He later dined with

Hussein and his American-born wife, Queen Noor, at the king's Peace Gate Palace outside Amman.

Details of the talks were not immediately available and Gingrich's visit was totally ignored by the state media, apparently to underline Jordanian anger over his statements on Jerusalem.

Gingrich, Albright in trans-Atlantic war of words

By JAY BUSHINSKY and HILLET KUTTLER

The war of words between the Clinton administration and US House Speaker Newt Gingrich continued yesterday, with the White House maintaining that Gingrich's comments in Israel have "not had a helpful impact" on the peace process and calling on him to express "contrition" for what he has said on the future of Jerusalem.

For his part, Gingrich expressed regret that he had been verbally attacked by the White House and State Department and that this was done while he was in the Middle East trying to make peace between Israelis and Palestinians.

Reacting to a Washington Post report in which he was quoted as saying that Secretary of State Madeleine Albright was acting like a Palestinian agent, Gingrich

said: "I would never say that Madeleine Albright is a good friend of mine."

His remarks, which were made as he left the King David Hotel yesterday en route to a meeting in Ramallah with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, were quoted by the Reuters news agency.

"I am overseas coordinating with the Clinton Administration, trying to be helpful, going to Ramallah today to see Chairman Arafat; I can't imagine why her spokesperson would want to pick a date like yesterday [Tuesday] to have a personality attack when the most she could have said is we probably have a policy dispute."

"You supposedly pay spokespeople to avoid fights, not to get you into them. And why would he want to attack me when I am overseas trying to be helpful?" The reference was to State Department Spokesman James Rubin.

A senior government official said Gingrich's comment about Albright was made two weeks ago in the plenum of the House of Representatives.

Gingrich contended he had done everything to coordinate his trip with the Clinton Administration, even making pro-Clinton statements in the Knesset.

He stood by his stand with regard to Jerusalem as the "united capital of Israel," which he said was based on a US law passed by Congress and signed by the president.

"It's also a simple fact. I mean Jerusalem is the capital of Israel. No person I know believes it is going to cease to be the capital of Israel."

The Gingrich issue dominated the first part of yesterday's White House press briefing, with

one reporter asking press secretary Michael McCurry to explain why he criticized Gingrich for his statements on Jerusalem's unity under Israeli rule, while First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton has not personally recanted her statement earlier this month advocating a Palestinian state.

While the White House quickly distanced itself from Mrs. Clinton's comments, McCurry said in response, "I have not heard anything from the Speaker indicating that he believes that he should not have expressed a private view or [that it's] not the thinking of the US government, or that he recognizes that there is a different way in which we are trying to attempt to approach these kinds of issues. I haven't heard that kind of contrition from the Speaker."

"It's not a question of [an] apol-

ogy. It's a question of saying things, doing things, that help the dialogue that we want the parties to have, that don't inflame and exacerbate the differences and tensions that exist already," he added.

McCurry said the US has encouraged members of Congress "not to say things that preempt some of the delicate negotiations" between Israel and the Palestinians.

In addition to their public denunciations, the Palestinians have privately complained to American officials about Gingrich's statements because "they have felt that it has not been helpful to the process," McCurry added.

Earlier in the day, McCurry told reporters that Gingrich's comments on Jerusalem were "provocative" and show that he lacks "proficiency in diplomacy."

Report: Iran to give Hamas \$15m. a month

By MARGOT DUKEWITCH and MOHAMMED NAJIB

An agreement between Iranian officials and Hamas spiritual leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin will provide the movement with some \$15 million a month and also calls for a Hizbullah-style organization to be set up to assist Hamas in carrying out terrorist activities, according to Monday's edition of the Paris-based *Al-Wakef al-Arabi*.

As Israeli security and government officials continued to debate whether Yassin will be permitted to return to Gaza, he collected donations of some \$300 million from the Gulf states, causing Palestinian Authority officials to express their concern at his growing power, fearing it will weaken PA Chairman Yasser Arafat's position, Army Radio said yesterday.

"If Yassin is prevented from returning to Gaza, it will lead to violence and Israel will pay the price," Hamas spokesman Mahmoud Zahar said yesterday. He denied that Yassin is collecting funds to carry out attacks on Israel and said he had been invited to undergo medical treatment in

Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

"Where he received invitations to visit he went," Zahar said.

Army Radio said Yassin reportedly asked for donations for Hamas during prayer sessions and meetings he conducted throughout the Gulf states. Throughout his visit, Yassin has continued to criticize the PA and condemn the peace process.

During his visit in Syria, Yassin stressed the pact he had signed with Iran and told reporters: "We refuse to recognize Israel and will continue to oppose all those that do." Zahar said that it is known fact that Hamas has offices in Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, and Iran.

According to Israel Television's English news, Jordan and Lebanon have said they will not allow Yassin to enter.

Yassin, who was released from prison last October in a trade for the Mossad agents captured in the abortive assassination attempt on Hamas leader in Jordan, Khaled Mashaal, was allowed to leave Gaza to undergo medical treatment three months ago and has since visited over a dozen Arab countries.

CABINET

Continued from Page 1

On the stalled peace talks, Rubin said the US is now engaged in "essentially, telephone contact" with Israel on refining American proposals to lead to final-status negotiations. Further meetings or shuttling to the region are not being considered now, he added.

"If at the end of the day the Israeli government doesn't believe it promotes their security, we would fully expect them to not be able to support it," he said of the US proposal.

Rubin also refuted last week's Israeli newspaper reports that Netanyahu had accepted and then reneged on American proposals calling for Israel to redeploy from about 13 percent of the territories. "Let me make this clear: We

don't have agreements that are then broken," Rubin said. "We have no agreements - that's the problem - or understandings that are then broken. It is not a problem of good faith or bad faith. With respect to the story that he had agreed to some number and then withdrew it, nobody in a position to know was aware of that happening."

In Beijing, Netanyahu said Israel hoped China would use its influence in the Middle East to help create peace in the troubled region. Asked to comment on the significance of his talks with Chinese leaders, Netanyahu said: "This visit will create a channel of communication between our government and the Chinese government that may perhaps become useful in the course of our intent to create a broader peace around Israel's borders."

Yesha Council intensifies efforts to block further redeployment

By MARGOT DUKEWITCH

The Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza is intensifying efforts to warn the public and government officials of any further withdrawal by pouring millions of shekels into a huge public relations campaign.

The campaign includes plane flights over Judea and Samaria and a film, which is currently in the early stages of production.

In addition to intense lobbying in the Knesset, the council sent several planes to take central com-

mittee members of the various political parties for a flight over the country every Friday to view the current state of the Yesha communities and what national and security interests and water resources will be jeopardized if any further withdrawal takes place, council spokeswoman Yehudit Tayar said.

Last Friday she said the council invited members of the National Religious Party to take part in the flight.

"We presented those attending with a map showing the national resources and the blocks of Yesha

communities and what every percentage will mean on the ground," Tayar said.

She added that the flights take off from Tel Aviv, with each plane carrying 50 members.

This week the council has approached central committee members of the Likud, she said.

In addition, several million shekels have been poured into a film that the council hopes to screen in cinemas throughout the country in order to enlighten the public on the reality the Yesha communities will face if any further withdrawal takes place.

Military courts sentence 3 Hamas activists, remand 10 others

By MARGOT DUKEWITCH

The Lod Military Court extended the remands of six Hamas members yesterday and sentenced three others. The Beit El Military Court remanded four Palestinians, who are suspected of seriously injuring Eliezer Frankel last month.

The Lod Military Court extended the remands of Walid Maher Mohtasab, 19, Isawiya, Mahand Salah, 19, Isawiya, Said Jamil Avid, 23, from Isawiya, and Ali Mahmoud Jabrin, 19, of Shuafat, until June 14. Balal Avid, 25, of Isawiya, was remanded until June 19 and Assan Avid, 25, of Isawiya, was remanded until June 11.

According to the charge sheets, Mohtasab, Salah and Jabrin were members of an illegal organization and set up a Hamas cell. Cell members armed with knives and tear gas planned to attack an armed IDF soldier or Israeli citizen in order to obtain weapons. They also allegedly discussed the possibility of dying as martyrs for their cause.

Said Jamil Avid also joined a Hamas cell and unsuccessfully attempted to obtain a weapon. Jabrin and cell members unsuccessfully attempted to ambush an Israeli car three times in order to obtain weapons.

Balal Avid and Assan Avid allegedly set up a Hamas cell, spread propaganda and took part in cell activities.

All six have been members of the Hamas since 1995.

The Lod Military Court also gave three Hamas activists a five-year suspended sentence for planning to kill Israeli citizens, the first part of which they will spend in prison. Yusef Ibrahim and Yusef Alian, both 20 from Sur Bahir, were ordered to serve 30 months in prison. Nidal Abu Kef was ordered to serve 24 months in prison.

LT-Col. Doron Filis said he would release an explanation of the sentences at a later date.

They planned to abduct or murder IDF soldiers on several occa-

sions. They staked out several junctions and planned the details of the abduction down to where they would bury their victim.

Abu Kef was recruited into Hamas by Alian. Abu Kef planned to obtain weapons in Palestinian Authority-controlled areas and then abduct and murder IDF soldiers. He also planned to carry out stabbing attacks in the capital's Armon Hanatziv neighborhood.

Meanwhile, the Beit El military court extended the remands of Rami Sabah, Amar Albachri, Iman Elbacassi and Yusef Kraki, who all are from Bir Naballah, until the end of legal proceedings against them. They are suspected of stoning Frankel's car on April 3 and seriously injuring him.

נפלה עמדת ראשון
With deep sorrow and grief we announce the passing of our beloved father and grandfather
Chazan CHAIM MOSKOVITS כ"ר מרדכי חליו זצ"ל
of Golders Green Beth Hamedrash, London
The funeral will take place today, Thursday, May 29 (Sivan 3) at 10 a.m. leaving from the Midrash Shmuel Yeshiva at Shat'arei Chesed, 8 Hashla St., Jerusalem, and continuing to Har Tamir, Givat Shaul.
Shiva at the house of Binayamin Moskovits, 52 Bayit Vegan St., Jerusalem.
The Family.

The members of the Board and the staff of the
JERUSALEM INTERNATIONAL YMCA
share in the grief of
Darinka and Tanya Gardiner-Scott
on the passing of
**Rev. WILLIAM (Bill)
GARDINER-SCOTT, O.B.E.**
Honorary Life Member of the Board of Directors

THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
with profound sadness announces the passing of
**Rev. WILLIAM (Bill)
GARDINER-SCOTT, O.B.E.**
on May 27, 1998.
The funeral service will take place tomorrow, Friday, May 29, 1998, at 9:00 a.m., at the St. Andrew's Scots Memorial Church.

The members of the Jerusalem Rotary Club extend heartfelt condolences to
Darinka Gardiner-Scott and Tanya
on the passing of
**Rev. WILLIAM
GARDINER-SCOTT, O.B.E.**
Honorary Member of the Jerusalem Rotary Club

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London based newsletter: IDF has 'assassination missile'

By DOUGLAS DAVIS

LONDON — Israel has developed a top-secret "mini-cruise missile" for use in assassinations, according to a "well-placed expert" quoted in today's issue of the London-based newsletter, *Foreign Report*.

The newsletter said the weapon, a portable guided missile, was first spotted at the time of the 1992 accident at the Tel Aviv, when five members of Sayaret Matkal were killed. They were rehearsing the assassination of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

The guided missile was apparently being tested and was fired by mistake," said the newsletter.

ter. "Development continued."

On March 30, 1996, the new missile was fired at two people building a water tower near Yafar, Lebanon. They were killed, and the army announced it had killed two terrorists.

Earlier this month, on May 17, the weapon re-appeared at about midnight when two missiles were fired from an Israeli outpost on a hilltop overlooking the village of Taibeh, Lebanon.

Eye-witnesses said both flew at remarkably slow speeds, both had "balls of light about two meters in diameter" at their tails. Their noses were described as "resembling that of a jet fighter".

The first flew in a straight

course and hit the ground without exploding. The second had a curving flight path and "appeared to be looking for something".

When it was north of Majdal Shams, said the newsletter, it suddenly dived to the ground and exploded. The target was reportedly four Amal militiamen on village guard duty. The men, who thought the approaching missile was an Israeli plane heading straight at them, took cover and saved their lives, but all four were injured.

The next day, added the newsletter, the Israeli army announced that one of its elite units backed up by aircraft and helicopters had inflicted casualties on a "terrorist squad."

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

The Defense Ministry yesterday approved the country's missile defense for the next decade, paving the way for the deployment of the Arrow 2 anti-ballistic missile system.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, convening top IDF commanders and defense officials, approved the multi-year plan to develop and produce the Homa (Wall) anti-missile shield. It includes the Arrow 2 missile, its Green Pine missile tracking radar, and Citron Tree fire-control system.

The plan calls for finishing

development and the acquisition of "the necessary number of batteries according to the threat."

The Homa program was launched in the 1980s and was estimated to cost \$1.6 billion, but it is widely believed that the eventual costs will be much higher.

OC Air Force Maj.-Gen. Eitan Ben-Elihu informed the group that the IAF is making preparations to deploy the first Arrow 2 batteries. The Green Pine radar has already been put into operation, according to the latest edition of *Air Force* magazine. This came six weeks ahead of schedule and was rushed into place due to the recent Iraqi Scud scare.

The IAF has also hastily drafted the doctrine, operating instructions, and included simulators to enhance shorter training time. Since late February, the Green Pine has been functioning as part of the overall anti-ballistic missile defense warning system, the magazine said.

Furthermore, the first course in the Arrow 2 missile was recently completed. It trained operators, technicians, and radar operators.

The Arrow 2, which is largely financed by the US, had been scheduled for operational deployment by the end of the year, but it is not clear when it will be deployed. *Jane's Defense Weekly*

reported that it has been delayed until late 1999.

Israel had originally planned to deploy just two Arrow 2 batteries, but has since sought and won promises of partial funding for a third battery.

"We are speaking of an advanced defense system at the forefront of world technology," Mordechai was quoted as telling yesterday's forum. "It is the most important system defending the home front of the State of Israel and its citizens from... the hostile states in the Middle East, near and far, who are developing, producing, and buying ballistic missiles."

Albright advocates Israel's 425 proposal to Shara

By HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON — Secretary of State Madeleine Albright told Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Shara last week that the US supports Israel's acceptance of UN Security Council Resolution 425 as the basis for the IDF's withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

But the administration sees little hope of reviving Israeli-Syrian or Israeli-Lebanese negotiations any time soon, State Department spokesman James Rubin said.

In a meeting with Israeli reporters Tuesday evening, Rubin said that when Shara visited the State Department on Friday, Albright raised "the traditional issues that we discuss with them at the request of the Israelis," including bridging the gap on how to revive negotiations.

"It's hard to be optimistic on that," Rubin said.

Albright also brought up with Shara traditional American grievances toward Damascus, such as its support for terrorism, he said.

"We discussed the 425 issue and expressed our support for this decision, in the hopes that some way can be found to move that forward and advance the peace process wherever we can," Rubin said. "What we did is express our welcoming of that decision and our hope that some way is found for the decision to be implemented, whether it's by discussions or some other means — that where we can make progress, like in Lebanon, we'd like to make it."

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai had discussed Israel's interest in leaving Lebanon when he met here in late March with Albright and with Secretary of Defense William Cohen. In a Pentagon press conference alongside Mordechai, Cohen called the cabinet's acceptance of 425 an "important step forward."

US senators give Assad fresh ideas

DAMASCUS (Reuters) — President Hafez Assad held talks yesterday with a US Congress team led by Senator Joseph Lieberman, who presented new Israeli proposals to resume peace talks with Syria.

Lieberman told reporters before the meeting that he had been instructed by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu that the current government would be willing to discuss topics which the previous Labor-led administration had tackled with Syria.

Lieberman, who came here from Israel, said: "We brought impressions which were hopeful... a desire... by the Israeli government that everything is on the table in

the negotiations and nothing is off the table, including the previous discussions between the previous Israeli government and the Syrian government."

But he added that putting issues on the table would not mean they were automatically accepted by Israel.

Lieberman, accompanied by Senators Jack Reed and Peter Deutsch, was speaking after talks with Foreign Minister Farouk Shara, who was present at the meeting held later with Assad.

"We spoke to Netanyahu and others in the government. I think there is a genuine interest in going back to the table and discussing peace, a normalization of relations between Syria and Israel,"

Lieberman said.

Assad's spokesman Jouban Kourieh said the president told the US team that Syria was keen to achieve peace on the basis of the UN resolutions.

Syria says peace talks with Israel, which broke off in early 1996, should resume from the point where they left off.

Asked about the Syrian response to the Israeli ideas, Reed said: "They understood what we were saying, I think they appreciated the fact that we were communicating a sense of willingness from the Israelis to begin."

"It would hope their best response would be to initiate talks as soon as possible."



Turkish general visits

Turkish deputy chief of staff Gen. Cevik Bir (right) shakes hands and exchanges presents with Defense Ministry Director-General Ilan Biran before their meeting in Tel Aviv yesterday. They both expressed satisfaction with Israeli-Turkish defense relations and discussed way to enhance them.

HEBREW PRESS REVIEW

By ORLY ALARON

Ateret Cohanim

The Ateret Cohanim Yeshiva students "will not rest until they succeed in provoking riots in the old city," writes Yosef Lapid of *Ma'ariv*, referring to clashes between Palestinian legislators and protesters on the one hand, and settlers and police on the other. The unrest followed the students' establishment of tin shacks inside Herod's Gate, in the Moslem Quarter. Lapid added that the provocation is meant to banish the Arab citizens from the old city.

Roni Shaked, writing in *Yedioth Achronot*, stressed that this was the first time the Palestinian leadership has clashed with the settlers and the police. "This is an example for the future, that indicates how far the Palestinians are willing to go in their struggle for Jerusalem and against the settlers," he wrote. Shaked adds that this settlement can lead to the "hebronization" of Jerusalem... which will lead to an endless friction between Jews and Arabs, the igniting of violence and the escalation of terrorism."

According to an editorial in *Ha'aretz*, the yeshiva students claimed that their act was a response to the killing of their friend, Haim Kerman, three weeks ago. It said that despite compassion and empathy, their choice of protest cannot be justified.

The way they launched their protest "gives the impression that the killing of their friend provided them with a pretext to carry out what they had already planned for awhile," the editorial said.

To the army

The drafting of yeshiva students is an issue that has remained at the top of the public agenda and sparked considerable controversy.

Writing in *Ma'ariv*, MK Rafael Eitan suggested that "the yeshiva will serve as the military base." He believes that the most practical solution would be establishing for haredim a framework which combines both national service and study. "The schedule of the services and studies will be flexible, given to the consideration and decision of the heads of the yeshiva and under their supervision," he wrote.

B. Michael, writing in *Yedioth Achronot*, argued against drafting yeshiva students into any framework. He states that doing so will only be a cause for trouble. He adds that the real problem lies in the fact that the Haredim do not work. "Instead of looking for ways to send a few to enlist, it would be better to allow them to work, and in exchange, to halt the funding that exempts them from the terrible need to produce and support themselves," he wrote.

IBA changes

A month after his reappointment as the director-general of the Israel Broadcasting Authority, Uri Porat "has stormed into the authority and the television in a violent and loud fury, that cannot but be motivated by personal reasons," wrote Ron Meiberg in *Ma'ariv*. He addressed Porat's firing of two senior Mabat editors for tendentiously presenting the report on Betar Jerusalem supporters yelling "Death to Arabs" in the presence of the prime minister.

Meiberg added that Porat not only abuses the television workers, "he is strengthening the government's hold on an important media branch and spreading terror."

Ben-Dror Yemini, also writing in *Ma'ariv*, commented that "It was only a matter of time until the attack against Uri Porat began."

He believes Porat was just in his criticism against Mabat. "The commissars of culture and the barons of the power of speech will not let him work," Yemini wrote.

"They love criticism as long as it is not directed towards them."

Swift Eilat-Akaba passage accord reached

By JAY BUSHINSKY

Swift passage between Eilat and Akaba will be instituted as of July 1 for 150 Israeli and Jordanian business executives and public leaders, according to an agreement reached yesterday by the joint committee charged with tightening the links between the two cities.

Issues of concern to Israelis and Jordanians who live and work in their respective countries' southern district were discussed at a meeting held in Akaba. The delegations were headed by Foreign Ministry deputy director-general Yoav Biran, and Marwan Dudin, president of Jordan's Akaba Authority.

The two countries' respective ambassadors, Oded Eran and Omar Rifai, also participated.

"The two sides confirmed their

common interest in developing the southern regions of Israel and Jordan for the benefit of their citizens and as a model of active and fruitful cooperation," Foreign Ministry spokesman Aviv Shir-On said.

Joint operation of the international airport serving Akaba and Eilat, development of tourism, improvement of ecological conditions, and coping with common traffic problems were cited as being among the issues on which Israel and Jordan can work together.

The swift passage arrangement which will expedite border crossings for 150 key individuals is meant to facilitate a wide range of activities in which the two states can reap economic benefits while expanding the people-to-people aspect of the peace treaty.



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Porat urged to freeze dismissals of journalists

By DAN IZENBERG

The Knesset State Control Committee yesterday called on IBA Director-General Uri Porat to freeze his punishment of four senior employees, whom he found guilty of "faulty judgment" in the news coverage of the Betar Jerusalem soccer club victory rally.

The committee asked that such a freeze be in effect until an independent committee investigates the affair.

On Tuesday, Porat fired Nathan Guthman, the editor of the evening *Mabat* newscast, and his deputy, Elisha Spiegelman and reprimanded Channel 1 news director Yair Stern and news director Rafik Halabi.

The four were responsible for the editing of a newscast showing Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu smiling and waving at the rally, while fans were shout-

ing: "Death to the Arabs."

Porat decided to investigate allegations leveled by Deputy Defense Minister Silvan Shalom, who accused the Channel 1 news team of doctoring the report.

Porat refused to attend yesterday's meeting, charging that Committee chairman Yossi Katz was trying to prevent him from conducting a professional investigation of the incident, and that he wanted to use the committee as a summary court martial.

Porat was particularly incensed by the fact that Katz planned to show three film clips at the meeting - the Channel 1 news report, the live coverage of the rally by Channel 33 and the coverage of the incident by Channel 2 news, the following day.

The clip of the live coverage clearly showed that the anti-Arab chanting took place while Netanyahu was smiling and waving, a few seconds before he spoke

briefly to the crowd from the municipality building. The Channel 2 film clip, which was taken from Channel 33, was similar to the report on Channel 1, the previous night.

Netanyahu has said that if there was anti-Arab chanting, he did not hear it. Arye Avneri, head of the National Union of Journalists, charged that Porat's behavior in the current affair was "part of a systematic assault against the IBA employees. It isn't just a problem for them. There is an onslaught against all journalists."

Union secretary-general Razi Guterman charged that Porat was acting on behalf of the Netanyahu government to take revenge on the IBA for its news coverage during the first two years of his term in office, especially of the Bar-On Affair.

Benny Liss, head of the ITV reporters committee, said that Porat, who took over from former

director-general Mordechai Kirschbaum six weeks ago, had cut himself off from the managers and staff. "This has been the climate at the television studios since he took over," said Liss. "Maybe he does it on purpose. Maybe he wants to scare the workers who learn about his decisions and plans through the newspapers."

Ran Cohen (Meretz) warned that "we are on the way to nothing less than the murder of a journalist."

Nissan Slomianski (NRP) said it wasn't enough to grant freedom to journalists. "We must also demand that they be fair," he said. "It's no secret that for a long time, a large segment of society has felt that the media is hostile, that it doesn't represent us and is biased towards the other side."

By the same token, we can say that many people have lived in fear of journalists because they knew they would be portrayed negatively."

Journalists hit back at Porat

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Senior staffers of the *Mabat* evening newscast yesterday rejected IBA Director-General Uri Porat's finding that the news story about Betar football fans chanting "Death to Arabs" was tampered with to embarrass Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Porat's predecessor as director-general, Mordechai Kirschbaum, also condemned Porat's findings and backed up the journalists involved in the incident.

The National Union of Journalists called an emergency meeting in Tel Aviv today to discuss their response to Porat's report and his firing two senior staffers of *Mabat*.

Elisa Spiegelman, whom Porat dismissed from his position as deputy *Mabat* editor, said: "Porat's findings are of the kind appropriate for Orwellian thought police, presuming to know what the journalists of *Mabat* were thinking when they edited the story."

MK Uzi Baram (Labor) attacked Porat for trying to introduce "a McCarthy regime into the IBA."

"Anyone trying to cover up for racist calls in a public event will end up in disgrace and be removed from office," he said.

Right-wing politicians responded with satisfaction to Porat's report. One Likud minister who

asked not to be identified was quoted as saying it proved Israel Television "is a nest of hornets of the left-wing Mafia and a submissive servant of the Palestinians."

In China, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told Channel 2 that he supports Porat and respects his professional judgement.

Union chairman Arye Avneri yesterday suggested setting up an independent committee to examine the cassette, adding that the union would accept its conclusions.

"We had experts check the cassette for us and they established there was no distortion, falsification or bias in its editing," Avneri said.

Porat told Army Radio yesterday that the "prefabricated cassette" affair will not impact on the rest of the Channel 1 workers, "most of whom are experienced, reputable journalists."

"These are very reliable people, of the highest professional level, honest people with flawless morals and ethics," he said. "They should be allowed to return to work quietly, and the matter should be discussed no further."

Meretz leader MK Yossi Sarid said the IBA must be saved from politicians who view it as a political vehicle. If Israeli journalists do not unite to defend their colleagues on radio and television "every journalist's day will come, and there will be no one to save

him," he said.

Kirschbaum, the former IBA director-general, said Porat's examination disproved the accusations that Channel 1 had amplified the calls of "Death to Arabs" and artificially placed Netanyahu at the scene of the shouting.

As for the charge of "splicing" the report, Kirschbaum said: "Every editing constitutes splicing."

"What was left out in the 46 seconds which were cut?" asked Kirschbaum. "Chants of 'He's great, he's great, he's great' and Netanyahu's greeting to Betar manager (Moshe) Dadash. Would that have changed the effect?"

He stressed that the editor's cuts also left out continued chants of "Death to Arabs" and "Ehud Barak is a son of a bitch." Thus there was no malice in the editing, Kirschbaum said.

He accused Channel 33 of doctoring the cassette it recorded of the event, so that in a repeat broadcast it deleted the calls "Death to Arabs" altogether.

But journalist Yosef Lapid, who was IBA director-general in the 1980s, said the *Mabat* editing was done in a way which made it impossible not to link the calls of "Death to Arabs" in Netanyahu's presence to the incitement against Yitzhak Rabin in Zion Square that took place in Netanyahu's presence during the last election campaign.



A first step

Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav launches the Pilgrims' Route Project in Nazareth yesterday to complete the walking route between the Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation and the Franciscan Church of the Annunciation, which transverse the ancient part of the city.

Gamla blaze under IDF investigation

By DAVID RUDGE

The Nature Reserves-National Parks Authority intends to demand the findings of an IDF inquiry into the cause and circumstances of the huge blaze that swept the Gamla nature reserve on Tuesday.

More than 6,000 dunams of natural brush, as well as rare plants and flowers, were destroyed in the fire, in which many wild animals also are believed to have died.

At one stage, the blaze threatened a tent camp of a parachute

regiment unit in the area. The troops managed to escape just in time, although some equipment, including at least one armored personnel carrier, was damaged.

It is believed that the fire itself was caused by a tank shell fired during an IDF training exercise on the Golan. The IDF Spokesman said that the army had launched a full investigation into the fire.

Shmuel Shapira, in overall charge of safety for the NR-NPA, said the authority constantly

reminds the IDF to take extra care in live-fire exercises, particularly when these were conducted near nature reserves.

"We will await the findings of the IDF's inquiry and on the basis of the conclusions we will decide what steps to take," Shapira said.

He noted that hundreds of thousands of shekels had been spent fighting the blaze, including by the IDF itself, which sent in soldiers and two helicopters.

The blaze, which began late on Tuesday morning, was extin-

guished at 4 a.m. yesterday thanks to the untiring efforts of firemen, aided by NR-NPA wardens, soldiers and volunteers.

There had been grave concern that the blaze had reached the closely protected colony of wild vultures at the Gamla nature preserve. The colony is the biggest in the Middle East.

Shapira said that it appeared that most of the vultures and their offspring, which have not yet left the nests, had survived. A closer inspection will be made on Friday, he added.



Say cheese

Participants in Thruva's cheesecake-making contest show off their cakes. Cafe Regta in Tel Aviv won the contest, in which chefs from cafes in Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and Haifa participated. The contest was held in honor of Shavuot.

(Shmuel Farag)

Jubilee show opens in Kiryat Shmona

By DAVID RUDGE

A touring show bringing entertain-

ment to 27 development towns throughout the country as part of the jubilee celebrations held its festive

opening in Kiryat Shmona yesterday. The "Jubilee Convoy," which is costing NIS 8 million to stage, is based on the idea of a travelling repertory company and is part of the events being organized by the Jubilee Committee.

The show - which includes clowns, comedians, singers and dancers - will visit schools in development towns and put on shows for children.

Performances, with impersonator and comedian Tuvia Tsafir serving as the master of ceremonies, will also be staged in the afternoons and evenings for the benefit of local residents at each stop.

The show, complete with a convoy of colorful trucks to bring the performers from site to site, is scheduled to finish its tour in September.

Doron Shmueli, director-general of the Jubilee Committee, was asked about the controversy over funding for the proposed Jubilee exhibition, which ministers have so far refused to let their respective ministries participate in because of the costs.

He said the ministries would eventually participate, in accordance with the decision taken by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and the cabinet at its last meeting.

Shmueli stressed that the committee was not party to the struggle by ministers with the Treasury to increase the budgets of their respective ministries.

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DRIVE CAREFULLY

Greens stage high-rise Haifa demo

By DAVID HUDGE

Three conservationists yesterday chained themselves to a crane in a high-rise demonstration at the site of a new hotel and holiday homes complex being constructed along the Haifa coast.

The activists climbed up the crane early in the morning, equipped with enough food and water for three days. Nevertheless, it was expected that they would end their protest against development along the coast today.

Several other protesters chained themselves to two gates of the Hof Hacarmel construction site, preventing workers from entering and effectively stopping work.

The demonstration was organized by three environmentalist groups, "Green Action," "Green Course," and "Anonymous," which joined forces to draw public attention to what they described as the destruction of the beaches.

"The sea and the coast belong to the residents and not to the investors," shouted the protesters. Police eventually cut the chains holding three of the demonstrators on the ground at the Hof Hacarmel building site and another seven released themselves.

Haifa police spokesman Supt. Moshe Nissan said eight of the demonstrators were detained for questioning. The police, however, made no attempt to try and remove the three demonstrators chained high above the ground to a platform on the crane.

Building workers and others tried to persuade them to come down, but to no avail. Tali Avraham, one of the demonstra-

tors on the crane, said they were prepared to remain there for as long as necessary to ensure the public is made aware of the damage being caused to the coastline by development.

"What is happening with development at Hof Hacarmel is nothing to what will happen if the Haifa marina project goes ahead," said Roni Armon, one of the organizers of the protest. "The destruction of beaches along Israel's coast is a disaster. Everything must be done to stop it now and we will do whatever we can to prevent this throughout the country."

The Carmel Beach Resort company, which is constructing the hotel complex where the demonstration took place, stressed that it was acting in accord with approved plans only and adhering to the law.

"The future stages of the Hof Hacarmel project take into account the needs of Haifa, as well as ecological requirements along the coast and the environment," said a spokesman for the firm.

"The project is being constructed only on private land east of the coast and will not harm the swimming beach itself. On the contrary, this beach will be expanded and developed for the benefit of Haifa residents and tourists."

Meanwhile, conservationists are pressing for Haifa's proposed multi-million dollar marina, hotels, and holiday homes project between Shikmona and Bat Galim to be scrapped. Plans for the project are due to be brought before the National Building and Planning Commission next Tuesday for final approval.



A policeman removes one of the protesters who chained themselves to a fence at a hotel construction site in Haifa yesterday.

NEWS

in brief

Police recommend charging Hoter-Yishai

The National Fraud Squad recommended to State Attorney Edna Arbel yesterday that Bar Association head Dror Hoter-Yishai be prosecuted for contempt of court. Police investigated Hoter-Yishai regarding remarks he made after the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court convicted him of tax evasion on February 19. He said that the verdict was "stupid" and that "the State of Israel cannot be a state of law if verdicts of this kind exist."

Arbel and Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein are to decide whether to try Hoter-Yishai. *Jim*

Report: Ben-Porat criticizes 'Hatikva'

Army Radio reported yesterday that Miriam Ben-Porat, the outgoing comptroller, criticized the national anthem during a lecture she gave before a Jewish audience in the United States.

Ben-Porat said that Hatikva does not reflect the feelings of all of the cultures in the Israeli population and called for the composing of a new anthem that would, according to Ben-Porat, minorities feel discriminated against by the anthem. *Jim*

Police, GSS testify about bridge collapse

Border policeman Michael Tsipin testified yesterday during the trial of five people accused in connection with the collapse of the Maccabiah Bridge. The proceedings are being held in the Tel Aviv Magistrate's court.

Tsipin was stationed near the bridge before the tragedy. He said that the contractor, Baruch Karagola, had advised him that it is permissible for only 100-150 people to be on the bridge and offered to help him to keep count.

A General Security Service officer also testified yesterday, saying he had crossed the bridge in an ATV without seeing any sign or indication that it was prohibited to do so. *Jim*

Italian foreign minister hosts jubilee gala

Italian Foreign Minister Lamberto Dini is playing host today to the movers and shakers of Rome's political, journalistic and social world at a gala dinner in honor of Israel's 50th anniversary. Among the invited guests will be foreign ministry director-general Eytan Bensur, who is flying to Italy's capital for the occasion. Jay Bushinsky

Shavuot food for lactose-intolerant

Shavuot is a happy holiday, but for the many people with lactose-intolerance, observing the custom of eating milk products makes such meals unpleasant.

Dr. Yosef Kleinman, director of the internal medicine branch of Jerusalem's Bikur Holim Hospital, suggests that even such people can enjoy the festival if they take his advice.

He suggests using substitute milk products made from soy, rice or almonds. Soy milk is the best, say Bikur Holim dieticians, because it has high-quality protein and added calcium.

"Milk" made from rice is weak in calcium and protein, and almond milk has lower quality protein than soy milk.

Kleinman said that up to 60 percent of adults in Israel, North America and Europe are sensitive to milk lactose (the sugar in milk), and 90% of those in Africa and east Asia have it too. All of these lack an enzyme that breaks lactose down in the intestine. *Judy Siegel*

Artificial heart recipient gets human heart

Yishai Eibender, 52, who was given an artificial heart a year ago in the first such operation performed here, received a human heart at Sheba Hospital in Tel Hashomer yesterday. He had been given the artificial heart as a stop-gap measure until a human heart became available.

The surgery, which took about seven hours, was performed by a team headed by Dr. Ya'acov Lavi, head of Sheba's transplant unit. Eibender was reported in stable condition after the surgery. *(Jim)*



Ben-Gurion University awards honorary doctorates

Eric Benhamou (from right), International Monetary Fund first deputy managing director Stanley Fischer, former prime minister Yitzhak Shamir, Rita Süssmuth, Kenneth Tucker, and Mario Vargas Llosa take part in a ceremony at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev on Tuesday at which they were awarded honorary doctorates of philosophy.

Professor with terrorist ties reinstated in Florida

TAMPA, Florida (Reuters) — A state university in Florida said yesterday it had decided to reinstate a Palestinian computer science professor who was suspended two years ago after US agents alleged he had ties to Middle Eastern terrorist groups.

The University of South Florida had suspended Prof. Sami Arian at full pay two years ago, after documents unsealed in US District Court in Tampa alleged that he used the World and Islam Studies Enterprise (WISE), a think-tank he ran in Tampa, as a front to bring alleged terrorists to the US.

But the school did not realize the suspension would go on so long without any word on the investiga-

tion's progress. Last February, it contacted the US Attorney's Office for information, saying it intended to reinstate Arian, said Pat Riordan, special assistant to the university's president.

Arian was on a year's sabbatical when Ramadan Abdullah Shallah, who had worked as an adjunct professor at the University of South Florida on a visa obtained by Arian, assumed command of Islamic Jihad in October 1995.

In spring 1996, federal investigators said they were probing Arian's ties to Islamic Jihad.

Arian has vehemently denied that his institute was a front for Islamic Jihad. He could not be reached for comment yesterday.

Greek singer feels 'affinity' with Israeli culture

By HELEN KAYE

Israel and Greece each have a long history and an ancient language "which gives us a cultural affinity," said singer Eleftheria Arvanitaki yesterday.

Greatly renowned in her native Greece, Arvanitaki is making her Israeli and Israeli Festival debut at the Binyanei Ha'uma tonight.

She describes herself as a people's singer whose music blends Western, Middle Eastern, and old folk tunes of Greece.

She planned at first to become an archeologist, but then changed her mind when the group of students she sang with at tavernas around Athens performed at a con-

cert organized by Dionysus Savopoulos, the man credited with the renaissance of native Greek music.

The turning point came in 1985 when she met influential contemporary Greek composer Stamatis Spanodakis, later cutting two albums with him that were best sellers. Since then she has made close to 30 albums.

Texts are as important as melody in her music, which is considered part of the Greek "new wave."

Soon after she and her nine-member band arrived in Jerusalem on Tuesday night, they went for a walk in the city. "I felt so conscious of its history which is of such concern to all of us," the singer said.

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On Arab aid

Next May, Israel may see the declaration of a Palestinian state and the winner of the Eurovision song contest in the same week, albeit with different victors in the musical and political contests.

Of course, I already watched the Palestinian leadership declare independence in Algiers, almost 10 years ago, on November 15, 1988. That "state" was quickly recognized by some 80 countries, including virtually every Arab nation except, significantly, Syria and its Lebanese puppet. Equally important, though, the US, Western European countries, and Japan withheld recognition, while Moscow merely formally noted the declaration.



Barry Rubin

The dramatic ceremony came at the end of the Palestinian National Council (PNC) meeting in Algiers, the same gathering that took an important, but still limited, step toward recognizing Israel.

Heated debates over the wording of resolutions dragged the meeting into the night as both delegates and journalists neared the point of exhaustion.

Finally, at 2 a.m., Yasser Arafat stood on the stage, wearing his khaki military uniform and keffiyeh, and read the declaration of independence in his high-pitched voice.

As soon as he finished, an Algerian military band played the Palestinian anthem, "Biladi, Biladi," while a Palestinian Liberation Army officer slowly raised the tricolored Palestinian flag.

Since then, the Palestinian leadership has come a long way in both political and geographic terms. In 1988, the declaration came under the protection of Algerian guns, a reminder of the PLO's dependence on Arab regimes. There were few other Arab capitals where that session could have been held. Help could never be taken for granted in an Arab world which often seemed to alternate between a desire to dominate the Palestinians and indifference toward them.

The 1988 declaration of independence failed to make a break with the traditional ideas and policies which had paralyzed the PLO for so many years. While noting that the UN's 1947 Resolution 181 "partitioned Palestine into two states, one Arab, one Jewish," the PLO called that decision, in language close to its own Charter, a "historical injustice" depriving Palestinians "of their right to self-determination." Of course, the land whose sovereignty was being proclaimed lay four borders and 2,000 miles away. The territory and many of the citizens claimed by the PLO were still controlled by Israel, while most of the remaining people were

refugees.

"The Israeli reaction [to the declaration] is not our concern," remarked one delegate. But that had long been the PLO's main error. No Israeli government would give up territory — under any amount of pressure — until the PLO could persuade Israelis that it had really changed its strategy and goals.

Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza understood this far better than did the PLO leaders in Tunis. It was all very well to proclaim an independent state but a mere announcement would have no effect whatsoever on their lives.

Since the 1993 breakthrough, of course, much has changed. Yet how much real support or actual policy change would a 1999 declaration of independence elicit from Arab states? The answer seems to be: very little.

The case of economic aid is quite interesting in this regard.

According to official Palestinian Authority (PA) figures, as of December 31, 1997 it had received almost \$2 billion in aid since 1993, of which only \$210 million (just over 10 percent) had been provided by Arab states. The biggest contributor, Saudi Arabia, gave less than Norway (\$127m. compared to \$149m.). Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, and Qatar combined gave less than Sweden (\$45m. compared to \$49m.).

On the political level, anti-peace process Palestinian groups get as much help from Middle Eastern states and groups as does the PA. Iranian-backed and Syrian-aided Hizbullah works to subvert support for Arafat among Palestinians in Lebanon. Arafat's Palestinian opponents also get much direct aid which they use to commit terrorism, and also to compete with the PA. Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin's triumphant tour of the Gulf was a sign of the attitude from Saudi Arabia and others.

Thus, the real test of Arab states' reaction to any Palestinian declaration of independence would be if:

- Syria and Libya stopped giving so much help to Arafat's enemies and rivals, while Saudi Arabia, Jordan and others tightened on their own citizens' contributions to anti-PA groups.
- Iraq and Syria stopped their verbal attacks on the PA and its policies.
- Kuwait forgave the PA for supporting Saddam Hussein during the 1990-1991 Gulf crisis.
- Palestine were made a full member of the Arab League with the rights and privileges of other states.

Short of such steps, backing for the PA would remain more lip service than dedicated and effective support.

Desperately seeking a doctrine

Now that it's detonated A-bombs, India must determine how many weapons to build and what constitutes foolproof oversight of a nuclear arsenal

By KENNETH J. COOPER

NEW DELHI, India — Now that India has declared itself a nuclear power, its leaders must decide under what circumstances that awesome destructive power would be used.

Official, secret deliberations are about to get under way in Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's coalition government, which must answer crucial questions of nuclear doctrine — not only those regarding potential use, but also how many and what kind of weapons are to be built, how they would be delivered against an enemy and what constitutes foolproof oversight of a nuclear arsenal.

Alternately, it is even conceivable that India could decide to cap its nuclear program at the testing stage, suspending further military development if the established nuclear powers agreed to a disarmament timetable.

Vajpayee already has ruled out using nuclear weapons except in defense of the nation, and a prominent cabinet member has said India would not undertake a nuclear "first strike" against another country. But many other questions about India's emerging nuclear doctrine remain unanswered, awaiting a strategic defense review by a national-security council that has yet to be established.

"India is very much like the United States. Your policy started developing some 10 to 15 years after the (nuclear) weapons arrived," said K. Subrahmanyam, a columnist who specializes in international relations. "In the case of India, I don't think it will take that much time." Mohan Guruswamy, a national-security adviser to the ruling Hindu-nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), said, "Nuclear theology is not in a very advanced state in this country, and we will evolve our doctrine as time goes along." Government officials say India's nuclear doctrine will be developed by a national-security council. Recommendations on the council's membership and functions will be made in the coming weeks by a task force led by Jasjit Singh, director of the Institute for Defense Studies and Analyses in New Delhi, and former Defense Minister K.C. Pant.

Considerable disagreement exists among Indian security analysts about the best system of nuclear weapons oversight — except that elected officials would retain ultimate control.

Singh said that linking an emergency cabinet committee to the air force would be sufficient, a view that possibly reflects his bias as a retired air force commander. The BJP's Guruswamy advocated a new military command separate from the three services.

"These are not weapons to be issued to the existing armed services," Guruswamy said. "It's undesirable that (a nuclear command) come under any one service. They get into competition for warheads."

The five tests conducted May 11 and May 13 provided a few clues about the type of nuclear weapons India might be planning.

The different devices detonated each released a force between two-tenths of a kiloton and 43 kilotons, according to Indian officials, a



Bhartiya Janata Party supporters pour Pepsi and Coke down the drain in a protest against US sanctions in Bombay earlier this month.

range that suggests development of so-called tactical weapons that could be used in battlefield situations, as well as more-powerful warheads that could devastate large cities.

National-security specialists outside the government all speak in terms of developing a relatively small arsenal compared with those of the five recognized nuclear powers — Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States. Various specialists have said that India would need 50 to 200 warheads to deter any nuclear threat. They see such a threat as more likely to come either from regional arch-rival and undeclared nuclear power Pakistan or from neighboring China, which also has ruled out a first strike.

The Institute for Science and International Security in Washington estimates that India has the weapons-grade plutonium to

build 74 nuclear warheads and that its Dhruva reactor near Bombay can produce enough material for four more per year. India Today, the nation's leading newsmagazine, has described the current plutonium supply as enough for 20 small bombs.

Vajpayee and other officials have been ambiguous about whether India has already produced warheads. The prime minister, for instance, was initially quoted in a May 15 India Today interview as saying that India has "a big bomb," a statement that was quickly retracted and revised to say the nation has the capacity to make such a nuclear weapon.

One word that officials use frequently in describing India's nuclear program is ambiguous: "Weaponization" can mean either the process or the result of making armaments.

"Weaponization will be couched in a lot of ambiguity," said BJP adviser Guruswamy, who in the early 1980s pursued strategic studies at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government with top American specialists such as Joseph S. Nye and Thomas C. Schelling.

What is clear is that India has limited means of delivering any nuclear warheads it may have.

To achieve maximum deterrence, a nation must have a triad — the known capacity to make nuclear strikes from land, air and sea — against any of the major nuclear powers.

But India's small navy lacks nuclear submarines, whose missiles would be the surest response to a pre-emptive nuclear strike. The capability of the nation's land-based missiles has not been demonstrated, despite a recent public boast

by the government scientist who developed them, A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, that they are ready for nuclear duty.

"The triad is a long way off, especially sea-based," said Singh, the New Delhi institute director. "The major delivery force would remain air force systems." India has considered using the medium-range Prithvi, which is based on the Russian Scud missile, to deliver tactical nuclear warheads in battlefield situations, according to US analysts. A year ago, a dozen Prithvis were stored close enough to the Pakistani border that Lahore, Pakistan's second-largest city, was just within the missile's 93-mile range.

The intermediate-range Agni has a striking distance of 1,250 miles, but the latest version using solid fuel has never been tested. Defense Minister George Fernandes recently announced that a test is planned at an unspecified time.

"Agni has been developed. Project completed. If needed, it can be made in numbers," chief missile architect Kalam said on May 17.

If its range were extended to 1,500 miles, the Agni could strike the major Chinese cities of Beijing and Shanghai. Kalam said an updated version with an even longer range is in an "advanced stage of development." The Agni is thought to have the potential to become an intercontinental ballistic missile able to carry powerful strategic warheads.

Kalam's Defense Research and Development Organization, part of the Defense Ministry, cooperated with India's Atomic Energy Commission in conducting the nation's first nuclear tests since 1974.

Since the commission was established for peaceful purposes in 1948, India's nuclear program has been under the control of government scientists and senior bureaucrats. India turned to weapons research in the 1960s after losing a border war with China in 1962.

The Vajpayee government's plans to build a nuclear arsenal dictate military involvement in any system of command and control over the warheads.

An Indian news service has reported that the Defense Ministry is to take control of nuclear weapons projects undertaken at the Bhabha Atomic Research Center, the energy commission's premier lab. A senior government official dismissed the report as speculative.

As bystanders during the Cold War, India's national-security specialists seem to have given little thought to one matter: the construction of supposedly bomb-proof underground hideouts similar to those the United States built for top government officials and military commanders in the event of the unthinkable.

Singh said such bunkers are unnecessary because India's nuclear weapons are for deterrence, not fighting a war, and because advances in telecommunications could make pushing the button easier.

"In today's world, a motorized cell phone connected to a satellite will do the job," Singh said. (Washington Post)

AGENDA

Continued from Page 1

For almost 24 hours the ministers failed to understand what the rush had been in convening the meeting, just as they failed to understand the rush in concluding it. On Tuesday afternoon the cat was let out of the bag. The ministers were informed by chance that Molcho had not been in a hurry to put his children to bed, but to meet Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat and that Netanyahu had not rushed to the airport, but had to clear the coast for his secret meeting with Ahmed Qurei, Speaker of the Palestinian Legislative Council.

"How can we possibly make any decisions on the redeployments when we are treated like kids," one of the ministers said to me. "I think it would be quite fair to say, in the names of my colleagues, that we have lost all faith in the negotiating process. How can decisions be made under such conditions?"

2+2+11=0

Netanyahu is entitled to point to the remarkable achievements in his negotiations with the Palestinians. The American idea of an overall redeployment of 42 percent within the framework of the interim agreements considerably improves Israel's position at the negotiating table. This idea (not an official proposal) was raised in the recent talks which Netanyahu held in Washington, while he was there for the annual AIPAC convention.

During his talks with Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, the Americans sought to calm Israel's concern regarding the third redeployment if the permanent status talks reach deadlock. This was all part of the discussions on the "cre-

ative ideas," as the meetings were termed by the press.

During those talks, the Americans asked a hypothetical question which went something like this: "If the Palestinians agree to the definition of the third redeployment parallel to agreement being reached on implementing the second withdrawal, will you go toward them?"

Netanyahu asked for more details and they were presented more or less as follows: "Commit yourselves to an initial 11% redeployment, we will then enter into fast negotiations on the permanent settlement and, at the same time, we will jointly track Palestinian fulfillment of their commitments. Negotiations will be held at a closed location, based on the Camp David format."

"Once the Palestinians have complied with their commitments, you will implement a further 2% redeployment within a few months. We and the Palestinians will be able to present this as part of the second redeployment of 13%, as included in the original American proposal. You will be able to present it as a down payment for the third redeployment. If the permanent settlement talks reach deadlock before the target date for reaching such agreement in May 1999, you will implement a further 2% redeployment which will complete the required redeployments."

The Americans did not undertake to make this an official proposal on their part, but they did promise Netanyahu that they would present it to the Palestinian Authority leaders as a concrete idea. The formula 2+2+11=15 brings the total area which is supposed to be transferred to Palestinian control in the event of a deadlock in the permanent status talks to 42% of the West Bank, in addition to the Gaza Strip.

This figure includes the 2.9% which the Palestinians already fully control as Area A and the 24% transferred to the PA as Area B. The leaders of the American peace team are of the opinion that this would tempt Arafat to wait for better days, perhaps a time when the government of Israel would change.

Netanyahu did not reject the idea outright. He explained that he would find it extremely difficult to persuade the right wing, and particularly Ariel Sharon. Washington in turn proposed placing Sharon in charge of the negotiating team facing the Palestinians. In their view, in this way he could stand up for those issues so important to Israel, since the Palestinians trust him.

Netanyahu proposed adopting a formula which would mean a maximum withdrawal of 14%, but in the final outcome he did not object to Albright presenting the Palestinians with the original idea, on condition that the US reach an advanced agreement with him regarding its response to a unilateral Palestinian declaration of independence.

In the end, Arafat resolved the issue. He rejected the idea, causing it to be put aside.

A senior American official this week used the exact wording of the Prime Minister's Office: "An official American proposal of this nature is currently not on the agenda."

Emergency training in the settlements

On Monday, when I paid an unscheduled visit to Psagot, adjacent to Ramallah, I found Binyamin Regional Council leader Pinhas Wallerstein together with representatives of the military and security services. They were in the midst of an emergency exercise, in preparation for a possible flare up due to the deadlock in the peace process.

The story which opens the training manual portrays a gloomy scenario: "The Arab states call for declaring full-scale war against Israel in an effort to force it to change its position on the Palestinian issue. American efforts to promote the peace process have failed; there are increasing signs that a coalition of countries on the eastern front is being consolidated. Syria has announced that it is taking defensive measures on land, at sea, and in the air. Jordan has begun to cooperate militarily with Syria; the Iraqi army has begun to organize a dispatch force and transfer it to H2 and H3."

This is the general background. The first scenario relates to events in Judea and Samaria and this too does not bode well: "Shooting at the Jewish quarter in Hebron. Junctions are blocked off. Psagot is under siege and cut off, as the exit is blockaded and snipers fire at the access road. A school bus, full of children from Talmon, is attacked on the way to the school at Dolev and three children are wounded. The road to Jerusalem is cut off. The Shilo bloc has no electricity. There is no water in Ofra."

Wallerstein, who was coordinating the exercise, explained that he is less concerned about an all-out war and more worried about attacks ordered by the PA. "There are tens of thousands of Kalashnikov rifles out there. They have guns with laser and telescopic sights. Even occasional firing into houses from the neighboring villages or from Ramallah's outlying neighborhoods would make our lives unbearable," he said.

"If Arafat crosses the line, and there are dozens of incidents at sporadic locations, I find it hard to see what the IDF response would be. Just one bullet well aimed at the head of a driver en route to Beit El would be sufficient to cut off the settlement."

Defense officials have noted a gradual change in the Hamas in preparation for political activity. It is possible that the stage of mass terrorist attacks against civilians, which began as a result of Baruch Goldstein's abominable attack at the Machpela Cave, is reaching an end.

Is an armed uprising possible? If the Palestinians had had weapons in 1987, it would be fair to assume that they would have been used instead of stones.

Today, too, Arafat will have to consider the matter several times before opening fire.

Dr. Hassan Khatib, head of the Jerusalem Press and Media Institute, explained that in practice Arafat's hands are not free: "The Palestinians carry out exercises within the framework of the Palestinian Police or at the PLO training facility in Ramallah, which is used mainly by youngsters who are known as Arafat supporters."

Other political groups, such as Hamas and the Popular Front, which do not support the PA, are also armed, and Arafat appreciates that if he lets go of the leash, he has a great deal to lose. In an armed struggle Israel will definitely have the upper hand. In a controlled struggle, it can take steps such as imposing a closure, halting traffic on the roads, power and telephone failures, cutting off the flow of funds to the PA. Giving a green light to fringe groups to operate against Israel may well boomerang against us."

These are the reasons which may encourage Arafat to agree to compromise on 42% for all three redeployments. This is Netanyahu's hope. However, even if

these assessments are correct, we should not discount the possibility of the Palestinians making a move which will turn public opinion in their favor.

Jerusalem-Moscow, a strategic axis

It is still not entirely clear if Russia is doing all it can to prevent further development of the Iranian Shahab 3 missile, whose engines were recently successfully tested. Over the coming weeks, Jerusalem and Moscow will enter into a joint strategic dialog. This new axis is the direct result of contacts Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky maintains with Washington and Moscow.

When Netanyahu asked Sharansky to take upon himself the struggle to counter cooperation between Russia and Iran in the manufacture of weapons of mass destruction, following David Levy's resignation as foreign minister, Israel was in a complex situation. Moscow regarded it as being at the forefront of an initiative to pass legislation against Russia in Congress. In Washington, the administration, which sought to reach a settlement, accused Israel of utilizing the pro-Israel lobby to counter its moves.

Today, three months after these contacts began, the situation is different. Both the US and Russian administrations are courting Israel. Two weeks ago, when Sharansky left for Washington to meet Vice President Al Gore on coordinating moves against Russia, a secret envoy from Moscow arrived in Jerusalem requesting a period of grace. The envoy explained President Boris Yeltsin's determination to limit the project and cautioned that any unilateral action taken by Israel might arouse antisemitism in Russia,

which is suffering considerable economic pressure.

"You don't need any excuse to arouse antisemitism," Sharansky retorted angrily. He then left for the US.

Initially Gore repeated his request that the legislation in Congress be dropped and suggested a possible quid pro quo — imposing controlled sanctions. Last Tuesday, before Sharansky left hurriedly for Moscow at the invitation of Sergei Kokoshin, head of the national security council, who had been made responsible for this issue by Yeltsin, Gore announced that following President Bill Clinton's meeting with Yeltsin in Birmingham, the time for imposing sanctions was not ripe.

Sharansky, however, did not set out for Moscow without some ammunition in his bag. At the end of the week, the Senate approved an amended version of the legislation which gave Russia a two-week extension, until a further discussion takes place in Congress. During these two weeks the Russians promised to take steps against the Russian companies which are aiding Tehran in its efforts to develop a guided missile system.

Moreover, in the very near future a Russia-Israel dialogue will begin on strategic coordination, which has the blessing of the US. The talks are important for both sides. The Israelis wish to stress the dangers in store for Russia from its cooperation with Iran, and the Russians are interested in enlisting the support of the American Jewish community and in repeating Israel's success in the high-tech sphere. Teams from the ministries of Defense, Foreign Affairs, and Industry and Trade will participate in the talks.

US satellites detect Pakistan nuke-test preparations

By JOHN DIAMOND

WASHINGTON (AP) — In the past several days, US spy satellites have captured Pakistani military teams nearing completion of preparations for a nuclear weapons test in a remote western corner of the country.

Two weeks after being caught by surprise by India's five underground nuclear test blasts, US intelligence this week has alerted policy-makers about Pakistan's progress, warning that actual

tests could occur at any time with only a few more hours of preparation.

The level of activity suggests that the Pakistanis "do indeed plan to conduct a test," said one intelligence official.

A Pakistani decision to test a nuclear device would represent a defeat for US diplomacy.

"We have continued to strongly urge them not to test a nuclear device," James P. Foley, the State Department's deputy spokesman, said. "In our recent high-level

contacts with the Pakistanis, they have made clear they have not yet decided to carry out a test, and we are not aware they have made such a decision."

As preparations at the test site proceeded, Indian and Pakistani troops yesterday exchanged shell, artillery, and mortar fire along the disputed Kashmiri border, where tension has been high since India's nuclear tests. There were no immediate reports of casualties in the fighting, the heaviest in recent days, Indian defense

sources said.

They said India was building up its forces in Kashmir, and Pakistan said it was arming civilians along the border.

US spy satellites have been monitoring Pakistani activity at the Chagai Hills test site in western Pakistan. In particular, they have noted tunneling activity that typically precedes an underground test, as well as the laying of explosive monitoring equipment and the setting up of observation and measuring posts.

Criticism of the failure by US intelligence to provide advance warning of the Indian tests has led to an intense focus on India and Pakistan since then. Intelligence officials for days have been reporting on the progress by Pakistan in readying its nuclear test site.

Despite US efforts to avert a Pakistani test — seen as a potential spark for a renewed arms race in Asia — Indian and Pakistani leaders have traded increasingly tough words in

recent days. India's ruling Hindu nationalist party declared the government's decision to test as a necessary act of self-defense. Pakistani officials have threatened to respond with nuclear tests of their own and have loudly declared that their medium-range missiles are capable of devastating targets in India.

India and Pakistan have fought three wars in the past 50 years, two of them over the Himalayan territory of Kashmir that is now

divided between them.

The Clinton administration and lawmakers are working on an aid package to Pakistan as an incentive for restraint. The package probably would include economic and military aid and delivery of 28 F-16 fighter jets Pakistan paid for but never got because of US sanctions.

Pakistan has been reimbursed \$150 million for the F-16s and also could possibly get the remaining \$500 million of the total cost.

Saudi Arabia, Iran sign cooperation agreement

TEHERAN (AP) — Saudi Arabia and Iran yesterday signed a wide-ranging cooperation agreement aimed at improving ties after nearly two decades of hostility.

The agreement, signed by visiting Saudi Foreign Minister Saud Faisal and his Iranian counterpart, Kamal Kharrazi, will result in increased trade, exchange of academics and students, sports competitions, and technological cooperation.

"I hope this will be the start of wider and more comprehensive cooperation," Kharrazi said as he shook Saud's hand after the signing ceremony.

Saud arrived Tuesday for a two-day visit. Iranian newspapers hailed the agreement as testimony to thawing relations, which gained speed after

President Mohammed Khatami came to power in August. Relations plummeted after Iran's hard-line clergy came to power in the 1979 Islamic revolution and pledged to export its ideals. Bar Khatami, a moderate, has been distancing himself from such aggression and extending a hand of friendship to Iran's Persian Gulf neighbors.

The rivalry between the two nations stems from religion: Saudi Arabia, home of Islam's holiest sites in Mecca and Medina, is the spiritual leader of Sunni Muslims while the world's Shiite Muslims turn to mainly Shiite Iran for guidance.

Their newfound friendship is a setback for US efforts to isolate Iran, which it has long accused of sponsoring international terrorism.

US to cut down Gulf troops

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bill Clinton has decided to keep about 20,000 US troops in the Persian Gulf region — about the same number as before the buildup earlier this year in response to Iraq's refusal to allow full weapons inspections.

The move announced Tuesday at the Pentagon cuts the 37,000 troops there now by transferring an aircraft carrier battle group, dozens of warplanes and thousands of army soldiers out of the region.

Spokesman Kenneth Bacon said the reduction will take place over the next three weeks.

"Iraq has been complying with the [United Nations] mandate to allow inspectors to do their jobs," he said.

"We've made it very clear in the past that we are willing to respond to provocative action by Iraq," Bacon said. "That policy has not changed."

One aircraft carrier — the USS *Stennis* — and about 1,200 army troops will remain in Kuwait. About 250 air force warplanes in the region also are expected to remain since they help monitor the skies over southern Iraq.

Army troops are leaving behind a rocket battery and eight Apache

attack helicopters, Bacon said. Bacon said dozens of Air Force aircraft in Bahrain are expected to leave in early June. He declined to specify, but the F-117 Stealth Fighters and B-52 bombers in the area were expected to return home in the coming weeks.

Bacon said the redeployment will keep twice as many Tomahawk cruise missiles in the region as were there last fall.

The USS *Eisenhower*, scheduled to leave Norfolk, VA, for the Mediterranean next month, will remain in the Mediterranean but could be moved into the Gulf if necessary, Bacon said.

German victims of Nazi 'justice' set for pardon

By FIONA FLECK

BONN (Reuters) — A landmark bill to rehabilitate thousands of Germans, most of them posthumously, who were unjustly convicted by the Nazis over 50 years ago is set to be passed by parliament, deputies said yesterday.

The Bundestag (lower house) is scheduled to vote on the bill today which seeks a blanket pardon for as many as 500,000 victims of Nazi abuses of the justice system who were jailed, sent to concentration camps or executed.

Herta and Paul Amirian, legal affairs spokeswoman for the opposition Social Democrats (SPD) in parliament, said the justice committee had approved the final draft of the bill and it now had a good chance of being passed into law.

"The majority of the committee approved the bill. We've done it. I expect it to be adopted by parliament now," she told journalists after the committee meeting. "It is important that the law provides for a blanket exoneration for all unjust Nazi convictions."

Greens party legal affairs spokesman Volker Beck said the bill was an important step, but it did not go far enough. It should specifically mention deserters, conscientious objectors and homosexuals, he said.

The SPD and environmental Greens had submitted a motion to include these groups in the text along with a list of other victims' groups, including Jehovah's witnesses and those who underwent forced sterilization.

But the committee, dominated by conservatives from Chancellor Helmut Kohl's ruling coalition, the Christian Democrats, Christian Social Union and Free Democrats, rejected this.

The issue of whether deserters should be rehabilitated was particularly controversial for conservatives, who argued that they potentially endangered other soldiers regardless of whether Adolf Hitler's war was a just one.

Dauvergne-Grelin said the committee had, however, agreed to compromise by lifting convictions on "military" grounds and argued the text included homosexuals without specifying them.

"By this law, the convictions imposed by Nazi courts for political, military, racist, religious or philosophical reasons after January 30, 1933, that go against the basic precepts of justice will be lifted," the final draft said.

Judge bans NYC cabbie protest

NEW YORK (AP) — A federal judge sacked a plan by taxi drivers to slowly caravan through the city in protest of proposed new rules, just hours after another judge had given them a green light.

The cabbies' big win dissolved into defeat Tuesday night when US Circuit Judge Dennis G. Jacobs issued an order delaying the demonstration, which was planned for yesterday. The earlier ruling had cleared the way for a protest of up to 250 cabs, but Jacobs said the city had a right to seek an appeal on whether the demonstration would cripple midtown traffic. An afternoon rally planned for City Hall was expected to take place as scheduled yesterday.

Norman Siegel, executive director of the New York Civil Liberties Union, which represented the drivers, said the protest drive could still take place, depending on the outcome of possible court hearings.

The judges' rulings Tuesday came in response to a lawsuit filed by an organization of taxi drivers against Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and Police Commissioner Howard Safir, claiming the drivers' First Amendment rights were violated last Thursday when the city barred them from the steps of City Hall. The suit asked the court to force the city to allow the drivers to stage a lawful protest.

Court: Ellis Island part of New Jersey

ELLIS ISLAND, N.J. (AP) — The sight of skyscrapers and the Statue of Liberty might have convinced millions of immigrants bound for Ellis Island in years past that they were landing in New York. But the US Supreme Court says most of it is actually New Jersey.

In a 6-3 ruling Tuesday, the court settled a 160-year-old dispute between the two states by saying most of the 27.5-acre island is in New Jersey.

Ellis Island, N.J.? That "just doesn't sound right," said Chuck Russell, 43, of Cherry Hill, as he rode the short ferry ride from Jersey City. "When I think of Ellis

Island and the Statue of Liberty, I think of it as New York City."

New Jersey may get some sales and income tax revenues from Ellis Island, but the ruling probably won't mean much to the average visitor. The Statue of Liberty, on a nearby island, was not at issue and remains part of New York.

New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani said he can accept the legal aspects of the ruling, but not the personal ones.

"They're still not going to convince me that my grandfather, when he was sitting in Italy thinking of coming to the United States, getting on that ship in Genoa, was

saying to himself, 'I'm coming to New Jersey,'" Giuliani said.

Pride was at stake more than money. The federal government actually owns Ellis Island, which was the first American soil walked upon by 12 million immigrants between 1892 and 1954.

Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., whose district includes the island, said: "This nation's heritage was forged at Ellis Island, New York — and nothing the Supreme Court says can change that."

Park Service Superintendent

Diane H. Dayson said she hopes the ruling focuses attention on deteriorating buildings — all on the New Jersey portion of Ellis Island — including the 29-building hospital and mental wards, and the baggage and dormitory building. "Right now, it's totally falling apart," Dayson said.

New Jersey Gov. Christie Whitman said the important thing is the formal recognition of New Jersey's part in history.

The two sides must still settle actual boundary lines.

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Miami discovers the power of bilingualism

By NICK ANDERSON

MIAMI — While California debates whether to stop teaching schoolchildren in two languages, the school system in this city at the crossroads of the Americas is expanding bilingual education under the argument that students will need to speak, read and write in English and Spanish when they reach the business world.

Here in Miami, there was little protest and much praise when the school board this year endorsed a plan to increase bilingual teaching for all students — not just those with limited English skills — from kindergarten through 12th grade.

The decision was seen as natural for a metropolis where the top-rated television station broadcasts in Spanish, the top-ranked newspaper publishes a separate Spanish daily edition, many top civic leaders speak effortless Spanish and Latinos have become the majority.

Other school districts nationwide have come to similar conclusions, as "two-way" bilingual programs — which immerse students in English and another language — have grown in popularity. There are at least 200 such programs in 20 states, according to the Center for

Applied Linguistics in Washington. They are in cities such as New York, Chicago, Houston and San Jose, Calif.

Their growth appears to be limited only by demographics (mixing students who speak different languages is ideal), by the supply of bilingual teachers (often scarce) and by money (always a concern).

Donna Christian, the center's director, said the two-way approach, also known as "dual immersion," has become popular in part because it avoids the "stigma," "negative press" and "controversy" that often follow other forms of bilingual education.

Nowhere is the controversy more intense than in California, where a vote on an anti-bilingual education initiative, Proposition 227, will take place June 2. The initiative, ahead by a 63 percent to 23 percent margin among likely voters in a new *Los Angeles Times* poll, would end most bilingual programs in California and give students with limited English skills about one year of special English classes before placing them in the mainstream.

How California votes on the measure could have nationwide repercussions because the state has

more students with limited English skills — 1.4 million — than any other. About 30 percent of them are in formal bilingual programs, including some two-way programs. But the more common approach in California is "transitional" bilingual education, in which students often spend more time being taught in their native language than in English during their first school years.

Educators in Miami are baffled by the cultural and political fire-fight over bilingual education on the other side of the country.

"We view it here differently than they do in California," said Miami school board member Perla Tabares Hantman. "We see it as a business opportunity for students." Noting that their region's trade with Latin America amounts to billions of dollars a year, business leaders say Miami cannot afford to do without bilingual education.

"I don't give a hoot about the political aspects of it," said James P. Partridge, chief of Latin American and Caribbean operations for Visa International, a branch of the credit-card company. "To me, that's a lot of garbage. I'm interested in the financial well-being of this community. We need

bilingual people to survive." Partridge is so concerned about the issue that his office here gives remedial lessons in Spanish and Portuguese to dozens of employees whose weak bilingual skills don't allow them to communicate with clients in those languages.

The pro-bilingual movement in the 340,000-student Dade County Public Schools, the nation's fourth-largest district, highlights several issues often overlooked in the Proposition 227 debate.

In California, bilingual education is usually seen as a program just for students with limited English skills. But here, bilingual education is sold as a program for everyone.

In California, fluency in English is the overriding priority. Here, no one denies that English is essential, but other languages — including Spanish, Portuguese and Haitian-Creole — are also deemed vital.

In California, many people assume that the children of immigrants can learn their native language from family while studying only in English at school. Here, many people have concluded that native language skills erode without help from schools.

Consider the story of Hilda Garcia, 26, born to Cuban parents

and raised in Miami. She learned Spanish at home but attended English-only schools as a child. Now she works for a steamship line that does business with Panama, and she finds her Spanish skills sorely lacking.

"I never was able to learn perfect Spanish. We all speak Spanglish," Garcia said, referring to a hybrid of Miami's two dominant languages. "I regret that very much. Our future e-mail, everything is in Spanish. I have to have two dictionaries next to me to make sure it all gets translated correctly." Hoping to give her 6-year-old son, Jonathan, a formal grounding in Spanish, Garcia has enrolled him in Coral Way Elementary School in the Little Havana district.

All students spend three hours a day learning in English in one classroom and two hours in Spanish in another. Teachers boast of students who are exposed to Shakespeare and Cervantes by the time they leave for middle school.

About a third of the school's students start with limited English skills, officials say, but nearly all are close to fluency by third grade. On standardized tests, students score in the 71st percentile in math computation and 47th percentile in

English reading comprehension — considered good marks for an urban area.

Principal Magdalena D. Vega said she has hosted legions of out-of-town educators, including a recent delegation from Los Angeles Unified School District. What makes the difference, she said, is attitude. Bilingual education here is seen as "enrichment" rather than "remedial." It was at Coral Way Elementary in 1963 that bilingual education was reborn, a response to the influx of Spanish-speaking children after the Communist takeover of Cuba. Teaching in two languages, common in other eras of American history, had fallen out of practice after the World War I anti-wave of nationalism and English-only sentiment.

The school helped inspire the landmark federal Bilingual Education Act in 1968.

Despite the success at Coral Way Elementary, schools elsewhere in Miami kept teaching almost entirely in English. Most Cuban emigrants didn't seem to mind. Newcomers were given some classroom help in their native language, but for the most part, English was the rule.

The new push for bilingual education is coming from the Miami

business community.

A 1995 survey of businesses in Miami and surrounding Dade County found that more than half did at least 25 percent of their work in Spanish. What's more, 95 percent of the businesses surveyed agreed on the importance of a bilingual work force. Another study by a University of Miami geographer found evidence that Dade County's Hispanic (the term preferred here over Latino) inhabitants who know English and Spanish earn more than those who know only English — perhaps as much as \$3,000 a year more, on average.

English-only advocates in Dade County, in years past quite vocal, seem for now a virtually silent minority.

A community task force earlier this year recommended several steps aimed at making all students bilingual. First on the list were about \$2.3 million worth of proposals to, among other things, add dozens of bilingual and English-as-a-Second-Language teachers at all grade levels and start 10 new two-way bilingual programs in elementary schools. About 30 elementary schools now have such programs, out of 200 districts-wide. (LA Times)

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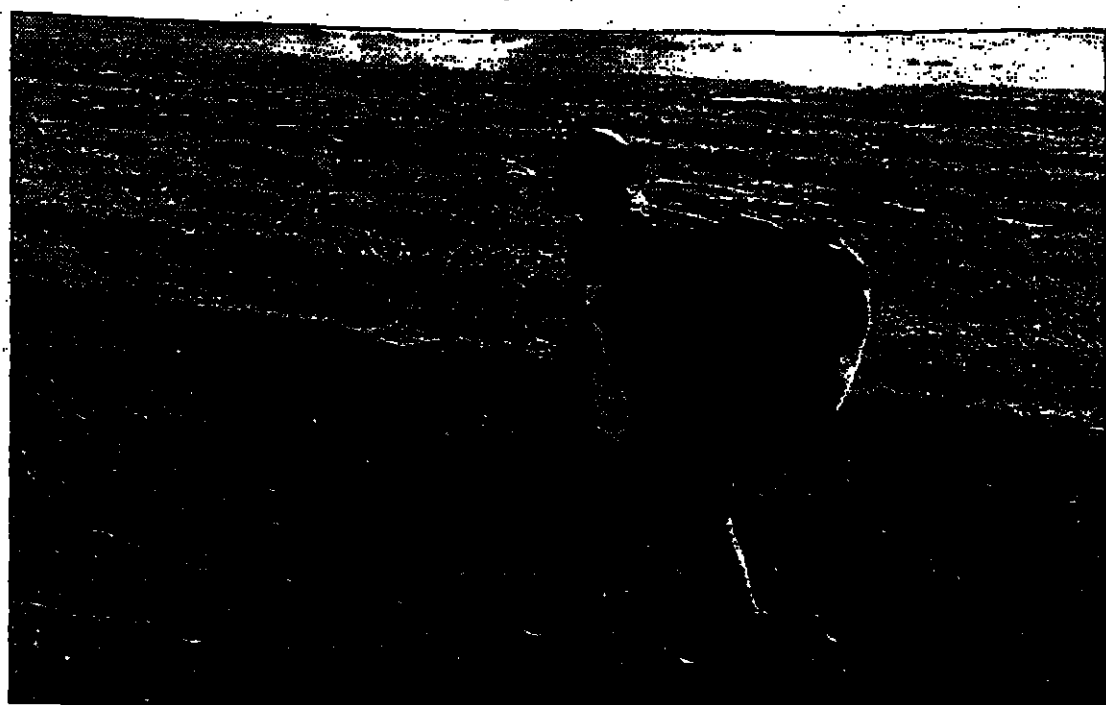
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Settling down

AS NOMADISM ENDS: The Israeli Beduin of the Negev by Avinoam Meir. USA: Westview Press. 253 pages. Price not stated.

By Leslie Cohen

The Beduin of the Negev are in a unique position. Although pastoral societies all over the world have become sedentary throughout history, the Negev Beduin is the only group of Arabs to become an isolated cultural enclave within a modern Jewish cultural environment.

As *Nomadism Ends* deals with both situations: it describes the changes that ripple through all pastoral societies in conjunction with permanent settlement, and it focuses on the distinctive circumstances of the Negev Beduin.

This highly informative work of cultural anthropology makes reference to many research projects, yet it is clearly written in language comprehensible to the nonprofessional.

The change from pastoral nomadism to fully sedentary life is a gradual continuum. Additionally, the nomadism-sedentarization-urbanization process sets in motion conceptual changes in society—notably, the rise of individualism and modernization. These ideological changes constitute an important element in shaping the emerging society.

Meir deals with four aspects of settlement: territorialization, demographic dynamics, the social status of individuals, and the relationship of the society to the state.

The emergence of territoriality and the significance of land ownership are inevitable outcomes of the sedentarization process. Whereas water rights and freedom to graze their flocks are vital to pastoral nomads, land ownership and private property become essential to

settled societies. While the whole community functions as the core group in nomadic society, the individual family becomes the unit of importance in settled life.

In sedentary communities, large families become an economic liability rather than an asset. Therefore, it is not surprising that childbirth rates have declined among the Beduin in recent decades. In addition, Israeli public health services have contributed to a lowered mortality rate, and life expectancy among the Beduin of the Negev rose to 73 years in the late 1980s. This is linked to the greater economic security that the settled Beduin are experiencing, and reflected in "a general increase in the perceived standard of living."

Anthropologists view changes in the social status and the wellbeing of children and elders as concomitant outcomes of the settling process. The cost of raising children rises in urban settings, while their contribution to household economy declines.

Along with this, a growing awareness of the need to provide formal education for their children is shared by all Beduin. Thus, the current trend is for the Negev Beduin to opt for smaller families.

At the opposite end of the age spectrum, there has been a "marrowing" of the central role of the elders in Beduin society, as the traditional judicial system is gradually replaced by state law.

The income that Israeli social service benefits provides for both children and elders forms a significant percentage of their financial support and offsets the increase of consumerism found in urban households.

REGRETTABLY, studies of the changing roles and status of Negev Beduin women indicate

that "settlement and urbanization [have] not contributed toward modernization and the emancipation of Beduin women from the traditional bonds, but... has even generated a regression in their status and social power."

Nomadic women were free to roam over vast stretches of pasture. In contrast, urban women old enough to be considered "sexual objects" are often confined to their small homes, as urban life offers many opportunities to meet non-kin adult males, with whom direct contact is forbidden. Due to this strong cultural norm, women's external wage labor is restricted, as is formal education for Beduin women. However, urban Beduin women have recently begun to form all-female social networks, which may, in time, counteract their present lack of involvement in the public sphere.

The State of Israel provides public health, education and community welfare services which have partially replaced traditional Beduin social supports. Although the provision of such services by the government is not in question, the transition from "internal" to "external" support systems has generated individual and communal stress. For this reason, Israeli social service providers should be familiar with traditional Beduin social mores and expectations. As *Nomadism Ends* gives relevant historical background and summarizes current trends in the lives of the Beduin of the Negev. Moreover, it analyzes conflicts between the Negev Beduin and the Israeli government in the light of their common history and cultural differences. It should be greatly beneficial to anybody who has professional or personal contact with the Beduin.

By Jocelyn McClurg

In the world of publishing, there are Goliaths and there are Davids. Random House, Bantam Doubleday Dell, Simon & Schuster and Viking Penguin are among the giants. But small presses like Steerforth, Bridge Works, Seven Stories, Coffee House, Graywolf and Zoland have taken aim with their slingshots.

Even if they aren't giant-slayers, small presses are a big part of the contemporary publishing scene. Especially in this era of conglomerate publishing—and with the looming takeover of Random House by the German media company Bertelsmann AG—small literary presses and university presses offer a home for books left out in the corporate cold.

Increased review attention, the explosion of the Internet and large chain bookstores as outlets for small presses, and the exponential growth in small publishers are all positive signs that bigger isn't necessarily better.

Small presses still face daunting challenges, but these are good times for many in the industry. "People are recognizing the fact that these are quality books," says Warren H. Phillips, co-publisher of Bridge Works Publishing, a small literary press in Bridgehampton, N.Y.

The Small Press Center, a nonprofit organization in New York, estimates there are 50,000 small presses in the US. These range from self-published authors who produce only one book in a lifetime to established small houses that publish a dozen literary titles a year.

"With the publishing conglomerates starting to devour each other, it's often the midlist authors who suffer because they don't sell enough books," says Karin Taylor, executive director of the Small Press Center. "Small presses are absolutely crucial for giving new writers a chance."

Small-press success stories range from books like the best-selling *The Beanie Baby Handbook*, 1998 Edition by Les and Sue Fox (West Highland Publishing) to *Women in Their Beds* by Gina Bertolotti (Counterpoint), which won the National Book Critics Circle Award for fiction last year.

The growth of small presses in the last five years has been "extraordinary," thanks to desktop publishing and the consolidation of the large publishing houses, according to Marcella Smith, director of small press and vendor relations for Barnes & Noble in New York.

Between 1994 and 1997, Barnes & Noble saw the books it carries by

the top 10 publishers decline from 74 percent to 46 percent of its inventory. Independent publishers and small and university presses made up the difference. Another factor was Barnes & Noble's expanding title base in its so-called superstores.

"Borders and Barnes & Noble have huge stores and want to offer their customers a large selection in every category," Smith says.

Traditionally, independent bookstores have been the most important retail outlet for small presses, because employees "hand-sell" books, or personally recommend them to customers. Little hand-selling goes on in chain stores, and titles by major publishers get the most prominent display space. But the chains have attempted to mimic hand-selling with ideas like Barnes & Noble's "Discover Great New Writers" and Borders' "Original Voices" programs, which frequently spotlight books by small presses.

Superstores are a "double-edged sword" for small presses, says New York literary agent Michele Rubin. On one hand they provide shelf space for a variety of titles. But on the other hand, small presses suffer some of the same financial troubles that plague large houses when the chain stores offer over-order books. It's more difficult for a small press to absorb large returns of unsold books from bookstores.

Online booksellers like Amazon.com are also offering new selling opportunities to small presses. "They are greatly beneficial to small presses," says Taylor of the Small Press Center. "The Internet

levels the playing field."

The role of a small press, says Phillips of Bridge Works, is "to identify and enable to get published works of real merit that possibly might not get published otherwise." But it's important that small presses publish carefully and know their audience. "A big press can afford to have all their geese not be swans," says Rubin, "but with a small press all their books must be swans." Bridge Works has had success spotting good books that were passed over by larger houses. A case in point is *The Price of West End Avenue*, a first novel by Alan Isler that was rejected by the major houses. Bridge Works recognized the book's merits; it went on to win the National Jewish Book Award and was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award in 1994. Then it was picked up in paperback by Penguin, and Isler has since moved on to publish in hardcover with Viking.

The same thing happened to Tom Perrotta, a fiction writer whose first book, *Bad Haircut*, a collection of stories, was published by Bridge Works. Perrotta's next two books, including this spring's *Election*, were published by Putnam, a major New York house.

"Small presses can be the talent scouts or minor league teams for really good writers" who go on to bigger publishers, says Chip Fleischer, co-publisher of Steerforth Press in South Royalton, Vt., a small literary publisher best known for publishing Dawn Powell's diaries.

Sometimes it works the other way around: small presses offer a refuge

for writers who previously published with larger publishers, who either can't get published with a major house again or who want the intensive hands-on attention, small presses can offer.

Bridge Works, for example, publishes only about five titles a year, mostly fiction. The six-year-old "Mom and Pop operation" is run by Phillips, retired executive editor and CEO of the *Wall Street Journal*, and his wife, Barbara, a writer and editor who edits the books.

The couple works one-on-one with its small stable of writers. Tom Hazuka, an associate professor of English at Central Connecticut State University, will publish his first novel, *The Road to the Island*, this summer with Bridge Works.

Hazuka, who has co-edited two anthologies, was unable to find a literary agent or a large publisher for his novel, the story of a man who returns home to Connecticut to confront secrets from his past. (He was told by agents that although the book was good, they would have difficulty selling it to a publisher.) After meeting Perrotta, Hazuka shopped his book to Bridge Works, without an agent.

Working with editor Barbara Phillips was "wonderful," says Hazuka, who nonetheless has mixed feelings about publishing with a small press. He received an advance on royalties of only \$1,000 (some small presses don't give writers any advance). But he also cites Bridge Works' strong track record selling paperback and film rights and in keeping books in print.

(Hartford Courant)

STEIMATZKY'S BESTSELLING PAPERBACKS

1. The Best Laid Plans by Sidney Sheldon. Warner, HarperCollins.
2. Self-Portrait of a Hero by Jonathan Netanyahu. Warner.
3. Op Center 5: Balance of Power by Tom Clancy, Steve Pieczenik. Berkley, HarperCollins.
4. The Actual by Saul Bellow. Penguin.
5. Toward the End of Time by John Updike. Penguin, Fawcett.
6. Jephtha's Daughter by Naomi Ragen. Warner.
7. The Project by Zev Chafets. Warner.
8. God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy. Flamingo.
9. Unnatural Exposure by Patricia Cornwell. Berkley, Warner.
10. Cold Mountain by Charles Frazier. Scribner, Vintage.

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BOOK BYTES

Peter Robb is a 52-year-old Australian author with an attitude. "Who is to say that books can't stop traffic?"

ONE WOULD imagine it to be an author's nightmare, but the reviewers hardly seemed to notice. The final chapters of Russell Celyn Jones' novel *The Eros Hunter* (Abacus) appeared in a jumbled order in the book's first printing.

London, Times reviewer Mary Louden was first to spot the hash-up. Previous notices in other papers made no comment. Similarly, a couple of years ago, HarperCollins published Val McDermid's thriller *The Mermaids Singing* without its final chapter. Though the novel ended like chewed off sausage, none of the early reviews seemed bothered by the unusual abruptness of the finale. Is this because reviewers have given up reading to the end of books?

LONE YACHTSMAN Pete Goss, author of *Close to the Wind* (Headline), said that in some ways he found writing more challenging than sailing. "I spent ages trying to start the book," he recalled, "and when I finally got going I raced to see my wife, Tracy, saying, 'I've written something.' We both ran into my office just as our three-year-old child finished playing on my laptop. Everything was wiped off." Luckily for Goss, a friend was able to salvage his sunken prose from the depths of his computer.

IT SOMEHOW seems fitting that the first cookbook published in 1796 in America (the land of the biggest, best and first) had a BIG title: *American Cookery; or the Art of Dressing Viands, Fish, Poultry and Vegetables, and the Best Modes of Making Pies, Puffs, Pies, Tarts, Puddings, Custards and Preserves and All Kinds of Cakes, from the Imperial Plumb (sic) to Plain Cake, Adapted to This Country and All Grades of Life* by Amelia Simmons; *An American Orphan*. One imagines that the book was published in large format and had little need for a table of contents.

David Brunner

ONE Suzanne Collier of the Society of Young Publishers was recently caught up in a traffic jam. It seems that a pallet or two of books fell off the back of a lorry on the M25, the major ring road around London, causing a 15-mile

The New York Times BESTSELLERS

HARDCOVER Fiction

1. "N" is for Noose by Sue Grafton. (Doubleday \$19.95.) A sportswriter tells of his weekly visit to his old college mentor, who was near death's door.
2. You Belong to Me by Mary Higgins Clark. (Simon & Schuster \$25.) A popular radio talk-show host finds herself endangered when she undertakes to expose a killer who targets lonely women on cruise ships.
3. A Widow for a Year by John Irving. (Random House \$27.95.) Three looks at the complex emotional life of a writer and single mother.
4. Message in a Bottle by Nicholas Sparks. (Warner \$20.) After finding a seashore bottle containing an enigmatic letter, a divorced woman encounters love.
5. Black and Blue by Anna Quindlen. (Random House \$23.) After her husband turns violent, a woman flees to Florida with her young son.
6. The Long Road Home by Danielle Steel. (Delacorte \$25.95.) A woman who grew up in a fractured family tries to find the courage to confront the past.
7. The Street Lawyer by John Grisham. (Doubleday \$27.95.) A young lawyer comes to terms with himself after discovering his prestigious firm's dirty secrets.
8. Secret Prey by John Sandford. (Putnam \$24.95.) Lucas Davenport pursues the killer of a company chairman who was on a hunting trip with four colleagues.
9. Cities of the Plain by Cormac McCarthy. (Knopf \$24.) The concluding volume of a trilogy about two cowboys veered by changing times.
10. Memoirs of a Geisha by Arthur Golden. (Knopf \$25.) The life of a young woman in prewar Kyoto.

HARDCOVER Non-fiction

1. Tuesdays with Morrie by Mitch Albom. (Doubleday \$19.95.) A sportswriter tells of his weekly visit to his old college mentor, who was near death's door.
2. We Are Our Mothers' Daughters by Cokie Roberts. (Morrow \$19.95.) The television news anchor's personal reflections on women in politics and business and as mothers, wives, sisters and friends.
3. Still Life by Christopher Reeve. (Random House \$25.) The stage and film actor looks back at his life, especially since his crippling accident three years ago.
4. Angela's Ashes by Frank McCourt. (Scribner \$24.) An Irish-American writer recalls his childhood amid the miseries of Limerick.
5. The Millionaire Next Door by Thomas J. Stanley. (Warner \$23.) Wealthy Americans have seven characteristics in common.
6. The Man Who Listens to Horses by Monty Roberts. (Random House \$23.) The memoirs of a professional horse trainer.
7. The Glits of the Jews by Thomas Cahill. (Doubleday \$23.50.) What Western civilization owes an ancient tribe.
8. Talking to Heaven by James Van Praagh. (Dutton \$22.95.) A "world-famous medium" discusses communication with the other side.
9. Amazing Grace by Kathleen Norris. (Riverhead \$24.95.) A poet reflects on her discovery of religious faith and the meaning of language.
10. Triumph of Justice by Daniel Petrocelli with Peter Knobler. (Crown \$25.95.) The lawyer who represented the Goldmans in the Q.J. Simpson civil rights trial explains what it told him about Simpson and the legal system in the US.

PAPERBACK Fiction

1. The Horse Whisperer by Nicholas Evans. (Dell \$7.50.) A woman seeks solace for her horse and their horse from a wrangler.
2. Pretend You Don't See Her by Mary Higgins Clark. (Pocket \$7.99.) A chance witness to a murder must live anonymously to save her life.
3. Orphans: Butterfly by V.C. Andrews. (Pocket \$3.99.) A troubled orphan is adopted by a couple who hope she will become a ballerina.
4. Tom Clancy's Op-Center: Balance of Power created by Tom Clancy and Steve Pieczenik. (Berkley \$7.50.) American intelligence agents try to prevent another civil war in Spain.
5. Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood by Rebecca Wells. (Harper Perennial \$13.50.) Three generations of Southern women.
6. London by Edward Rutherfurd. (Fawcett \$7.99.) Two thousand years of life in Britain's capital as seen by six families.
7. Sanctuary by Nora Roberts. (Jove \$7.50.) A photographer, coming to grips with her past, returns to the Georgia inn that her family operates.
8. Comanche Moon by Larry McMurtry. (Pocket \$7.99.) Two Texas Rangers, veterans of "Lonesome Dove," battle defiant Comanches.
9. Pitam Island by Nelson DeMille. (Warner \$7.99.) A detective probes the murder of a Long Island couple who may have been involved in germ warfare research.
10. The Notebook by Nicholas Sparks. (Warner Vision \$5.99.) A World War II veteran meets an old flame who is about to be married.

PAPERBACK Non-fiction

1. Into Thin Air by Jon Krakauer. (Anchor/Doubleday \$7.99.) A journalist's account of his ascent on Mt. Everest in 1996, the deadliest season in history.
2. Personal History by Katharine Graham. (Vintage \$15.) The autobiography of the former publisher of *The Washington Post*.
3. Under the Tuscan Sun by Frances Mayes. (Broadway \$13.) A celebration of life in the Italian countryside by an American poet.
4. James Cameron's Titanic by Ed W. Marsh. (Photographs by Douglas Kirkland. (Harper Perennial \$20.) A lavishly illustrated account of the making of the film.
5. The Color of Water by James McBride. (Riverhead \$12.) A black writer and musician recalls his experiences growing up with his white mother in a Brooklyn housing project.
6. A Child Called "It" by Dave Pelzer. (Health Communications \$9.95.) The autobiography of a man who survived his mother's abuse.
7. Into the Wild by Jon Krakauer. (Anchor/Doubleday \$12.95.) The story of a young man whose obsession with the wilderness had a tragic end in Alaska.
8. A Night to Remember by Walter Lord. (Bantam \$5.99.) An historian's account of the Titanic disaster.
9. The Lost Boy by Dave Pelzer. (Health Communications \$10.95.) The author of *A Child Called "It"* recalls life in a series of foster homes.
10. Brain Droppings by George Carlin. (Hyperion \$10.95.) Comments on life by the stand-up comedian.

PAPERBACK Miscellaneous

1. Don't Sweat the Small Stuff... and It's All Small Stuff by Richard Carlson. (Hyperion \$8.95.) How to enjoy life more and contribute to the world we live in.
2. Dr. Atkins New Diet Revolution by Robert C. Atkins. (Avon \$6.50.) Ways to lose weight and achieve a healthy body.
3. Chicken Soup for the Pet Lover's Soul, compiled by Jack Canfield, Mark Hansen, Marty Becker and Carol Kline. (Health Communications \$12.95.) Inspirational stories.
4. The Beanie Baby Handbook 1998 by Les Fox and Sue Fox. (West Highland \$6.95.) A guide.

HARDCOVER Miscellaneous

1. In the Meantime by Iyanla Vanzant. (Simon & Schuster \$23.) Ways to find out what you truly need, particularly "the love that you want."
2. Sugar Busters by H. Leighton Steward et al. (Ballantine \$22.) A diet designed for losing weight, increasing energy and combating disease.
3. The 9 Steps to Financial Freedom by Suze Orman. (Crown \$23.) Ways to manage your money now and in the future.
4. Simple Abundance by Sarah Ban Breathnach. (Warner \$17.95.) Advice for women seeking to improve the way they look at themselves.

Weekender

Return of the first rockers

Twenty-three years after breaking up, the seminal Israeli band Kaveret is reuniting. Again.

By EMILY HAUSER

Tonight's Hayarkon Park performance is Kaveret's third post-breakup reunion; but, given that these have fallen at six to nine year intervals, perhaps we can forgive the semantic inaccuracy of billing this year's event as a "one only performance."

All these are the same seven men who, for all intents and purposes, gave birth to Israeli pop. They deserve a little leeway.

Kaveret was formed in 1972 when Danny Sanderson gathered Gidi Gov, Alon Olearchik, Ephraim Shamir, Yitzhak Klepter (Churchill) and Meir Fenigstein (aka Poogie) under one musical roof. Shamir brought along Yoni Rechter, and the country's never been the same.

Matching vast reservoirs of talent with a witty sense of humor and considerable experience in the influential IDF entertainment business, the seven forged a truly Israeli musical form, one which pop's most natural audience—restless, irreverent young people—could take to their hearts. Songs like "Shir Hamakolet" ("The Store Song"), "Yo-ya," and "Kol Kach Yafa" ("She's So Sexy") instantly became an integral part of the national collective musical consciousness.

With only three studio albums and one live recording to its name, Kaveret has sold well over 200,000 discs—an amazing feat in the signature-market that is Israel. More than two decades later, it's still nearly impossible to get through a day's radio listening without hearing at least one Kaveret track. If we play with the tapes a bit and add the albums by Sanderson, Gov, Olearchik, et al in the ensuing years, we'd be hard-pressed to get through an hour without hearing at least one of their voices. Add all their work as producers, songwriters and musicians, and forget about the country's music industry is wall-to-wall Kaveret and its

Discussing the band's gargantuan influence on local culture, radio personality and rock expert Yoav Kutner suggests that the key lies in the fact that they did what they did. They managed to do something that sounded very, very new, he says, "even though it wasn't really all that new."

Approaching the music with a decidedly Israeli mentality, the band took the well-worn entertainment formula (light pop interspersed with comedy songs) and added what Kutner

Brothers, and harmonies like the Beatles or the Beach Boys, and a rock attitude.

"After the Yom Kippur War, people were depressed, they were sick of what [they'd been listening to] before. Kaveret was fresh. It allowed people to escape reality. 'Aside from that,' he adds, 'there was also a great deal of talent.'"

The years after the break-up sent the boys in the band in a dizzying array of directions, from studying to be an insurance salesman (Shamir) to becoming a popular talk-show host (Gov). Fenigstein has been organizing and producing the annual Israeli film festival in his adopted home of Los Angeles since 1983. Olearchik spent several years in the US studying at Boston's Berklee College of Music, then working on avant-garde music and conceptual performance art in New York, but came back for the 1984 tour—and stayed to build his own highly influential career.

Other than Fenigstein, Kaveret's members have all stayed within shouting distance of their celebrated musical beginnings. Shamir, who abandoned the insurance thing, teaches today at the Rimmon School of Jazz and Contemporary Music and produces new bands. Sanderson and his inimitable brand of stand-up-comedy-meets-guitar-god is never far from the airwaves. Rechter's skills as a composer is such that the Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra recently performed an evening of his work. And even Gov, through years of TV comedy, movies and now his talk-show, has never stopped singing and putting out albums.

It is perhaps a sign of the regard afforded Kaveret that tonight's warm-up bands are two of local rock's best hopes for the future. The first of these, Ha'Zvuvim, is in many ways a direct continuation of Kaveret's style—sharp, rocking tunes, a combination of seemingly disparate talents (Dan Toren, Maor Cohen of Ziknei Tzeitel and Peter Roth of Monka Sex) and a penchant for poking fun—updated with a Nineties patina of cynicism.

The other act, Ivri Lider and his band, are quite different. They're masters of thoughtful pop-rock tracks in which computerized sounds are as important as a piano or slashing guitar. With a note of excitement in his voice, Lider (who, at 24, is a year younger than Kaveret) says that "it's a real honor" to be performing tonight. Even though he acknowledges that he's gone off in a direction Kaveret might never have considered, Lider believes that the legendary band "influenced all of the music in Israel, in that they legitimized



Above: Kaveret in 1973. (Below): from left to right: Yoni Rechter, Yitzhak Klepter, Gidi Gov, Ephraim Shamir, Danny Sanderson, Alon Olearchik, Meir Fenigstein



songs that weren't songs of remembrance, and showed that there could be a little humor as well."

Asked if he's nervous about performing on the same stage as the titans, Lider doesn't hesitate to put himself in his place. "All this is, is a warm-up. It's clear that the real deal is Kaveret. I'm not even comparing what we do to them."

For all their continuing musical impact, however, one need only look at a recent picture of the Kaveret gang to see how many years have passed. Always an attractive group of men, the good looks now have a decidedly middle-aged twist. There's plenty of

gray and thinning hair to go around, waists have thickened, and jowls appeared.

But don't be misled: The passion for their music, and the sheer fun they have performing, doesn't seem to have dimmed with the passage of time. The seven started rehearsing for tonight's performance six months ago, and it would seem that the pay-off is terrific. A dress rehearsal of sorts to which friends and family were invited this week was a huge success (rumor has it that even those invitees who don't like Kaveret had a great time), and in a casual, acoustic performance given on

Channel 2's *Night Meet* on Tuesday night, the professionalism and flat-out enjoyment were palpable.

The harmonies were, of course, the best of all. After all these years, Sanderson, Gov, Olearchik, Shamir, Klepter, Fenigstein and Rechter still sound absolutely great together. If you're free tonight, and can afford the NIS 150 ticket, you might want to go by Hayarkon Park. It's a one-time only show—and who knows, it may really be the last time.

The show starts at 6:45. Kaveret performs at 8:30.

A love & kitsch fest

By DAHLIA SCHEINDLIN

Far up on Tel Aviv's Ben-Yehuda Street, amidst a no-man's-land of furniture stores and forlorn felaflaf stands, a strange bird of many colors has landed, in the form of Café Gallery, an eclectic new coffee shop/restaurant.

"Many colors" is meant literally: the space encompasses rows of brightly painted canvases tied onto bamboo frames, spilling out onto the industrial street in imitation-Soho fashion. Once the colors and the clear Picasso style have attracted the passer-by's attention from blocks away, tables and chairs on the sidewalk can be discerned among the scattering of propped-up frames.

The picture is one of an altogether beckoning, sunny corner café, where the wild colors of the artwork are matched by piles of fruit that line the interior—walls and ceilings alike.

By night, the two-month-old joint sheds its semi-pretentious trappings as the evening activity swings into rapid acceleration, beginning between 11 p.m. and midnight, with karaoke as the gimmick. The café's managers are pros at mood-making. A night-club style hostess is the queen of the karaoke-corner, and she tolerates neither contempt nor apathy from her crowd. She sings along and sways seductively, prompting applause at the appropriate moments (unrelated to the end of the song), riling up the audience and turning every shower-caterwauler into a star for three minutes. The 20 to 30-year-old audience is completely engaged in their cheerleading duties. Full choral sing-alongs occur with amazing regularity, swaying and lighter-waving pepper a generally rowdy stream of laughter and conversation. Members of the audience jump out of their seats in a frenzy of pop-music worship to join strangers at the mike.

Others find a square foot or two in between bamboo-weave tables to dance with their arms around each other while beaming at the singers (who are equally likely to have their arms around each other).

The love and kitsch fest is complemented superbly by the frenetic, remarkably honey interior. The canvases that are outside during the day are all inside at night, and the walls are covered with them as well.

A view from any angle yields an abstract painting (all from the owners' gallery, David Ess, in the Jordan Valley).

The rest of the décor lies somewhere between Honolulu and Dahab—between the tropical fruit and bamboo theme for the furniture to the Beduin "relaxation corner" filled with mats, pillows, low tables and the mandatory nargila.

Otherwise, the place "has everything in the world," boasts co-owner Meir Moyel. "There is even a television because we want people to feel like they are in their own home."

Sure enough, corners are just cluttered enough to feel like a living room, although with a fish tank and an iguana inside, it may not be *my* living room.

Even better, living rooms don't contain the lusty additions to a standard bar-café menu offered at the Gallery.

In the kitchen, from a cluster of mysterious steaming pots, emanates an array of dizzying sweet smells. Around 1 p.m., the fruits are served. The Gallery makes its own candied fruit and jams, of which small steaming samples are distributed. For NIS 18, you can purchase 300 grams. The thick ginger and cinnamon-spiced stewed tropical fruit is too delectable to describe.

The rest of the menu is describable. Salads and sandwiches, including hefty platters of toast, range from NIS 20 to NIS 30.

On karaoke nights, there is a NIS 35 minimum. More substantial food is available as well, including a surprising assortment of fish dishes. A full bar lines the back wall.

But by far the most extensive range of choices is listed on the fluorescent paper menus showing the karaoke selection, which ranges from Boaz Sharabi to Naomi Shemer, and from Queen to the Spice Girls.

Eclecticism is the name of the game here, and the owners are hoping for a mixed crowd of artists, tourists and local color. They get a significant number of good-time seekers as well.

Moyel and his partner, Yigal Attias, care deeply about satisfying their customers. They walk around chatting with regulars and newcomers, offering song-choice consultation, then returning to hover around the bar.

"Everyone is a friend when they come here," says Moyel. "And if they weren't before, they become friends once they get here."

Café Gallery, 219 Ben-Yehuda, Tel Aviv (03) 605-1277

CDs on my mind

Cameri Quintet star Rami Hoyberger talks about his favorite music

"Let's do this now" said Rami Hoyberger, waiting for a tow-truck outside his car on a busy highway. Being a top actor/comedian in Israel doesn't leave the 35-year-old star any time to spare for an interview.

Exactly ten years ago he graduated from the Nissan Nativ acting studio and since then he's managed to act in twelve plays, including Rina Yerushalmi's *Hamlet* and a one-man show which won him First Prize at the TheaterNetto monodrama festival. He's had leading roles in four feature films and after two seasons with the Cameri Quintet will appear in the new version of the popular TV show in a format that has an ongoing plot. Currently he's touring the country with friend and colleague Dov Navon, another Quintet regular, in *Two Drops of Water*. At the Beit Lessin Theater he plays in Shmuel Hasfari's *Hamlet* and Shiva and recently opened in *Popcorn*, a black comedy by Ben Elton.

1. Eran Tzur singing Yona Wallach
"I admire both artists. I read Yona Wallach in my youth and loved her writing. In this disc Eran Tzur presents her songs brilliantly, and the combination of the two is moving."

2. Thelonious Monk's *Round Midnight*
"I mention a specific disc but all his music is wonderful. He is a great jazz artist who revolutionized jazz. He is always a pleasure to listen to."

3. Anything by Warren G.
"I love to dance around in my living room and there is nothing better than black rap music to move your body to. Black music has soul in it."

4. Beethoven's Ninth Symphony
"I have always loved Beethoven's music and this piece in particular. A few months ago I presented the concert 'The Philharmonic in Jeans,' conducted by Kurt Masur. They played Beethoven's Ninth with the film *Clockwork Orange* projected on a backdrop. It was brilliant and pure joy. You can try it at home with a disc and your video and I promise it works!"



5. Joni Mitchell's *Blue*
"I remember this disc fondly since it reminds me of home and a warm bowl of soup. I think this sensation derives from a night I spent several years ago in Rosh Pina. I was stuck there one evening so I went to visit Drora Havkin, a dear friend who is no longer with us. She was so welcoming and casual about my sudden arrival. She put some bread in the oven and heated up some soup for us both. We sat down to eat listening to Joni Mitchell's *Blue* playing in the background."
— Martha Inbar-Lasry

Hot tips

By DAHLIA SCHEINDLIN

Tel Aviv

If no tickets are left for Kaveret (see feature above), there's plenty of world-music gigs around: The Enav Center promises a healthy fusion of styles in an evening called Raggaejazz. The Jamaican connection may be unclear, as the evening's draw is in fact the soothing sound of the sitar and a blend of Indian music with jazz performers. G.M. Goswami plays the sitar and Mani Shankar joins him, while Harold Rubin and Albert Beger blow clarinet and sax, respectively, representing the jazz element. At Enav Center, Gan Ha'ir, starts at 9 p.m. Call (03) 521-7763.

When Indian and Israeli music don't do it for you, Samir Abu Fare presents an evening of folk songs and classical Lebanese music at the Inbal Ethnic Center, Suzanne Dellal, 8:30 p.m. Despite the somber topic of Holocaust remembrance, the Kibbutz Dance Company's *Aide Memoire* is a terrific show and one of its most important.

Recently returned from gloriously reviewed shows in Washington, D.C., the now-famous performance, choreographed by Rami Be'er, plays tonight at Suzanne Dellal at 9.

For a dose of Russian-related theater that isn't Gershwins, *Moscow-Petushki* is showing tonight. Written by Venedikt Yerofeev, this play is a one-man monologue performed by Gil Amital. Playing at Tzavta at 8:30 p.m.

Jerusalem

Israel Festival highlights tonight include Greek singer Eleftheria Arvanitaki, with the accompaniment of her nine-piece orchestra. 8:30 p.m. Call (02) 624-0869 for tickets.



The festival's theatrical offering is *Leitmotive* by Les Deux Mondes theater company. The group is performing this play in English at 5 p.m., followed by a French ver-

sion at 9 p.m. At the Jerusalem Theater, Rebecca Crown.

Peaceniks will appreciate the Arab and Jewish mix of people and influences found in Yosef ve Ehad, a very large, very intercultural ethnic music group. This band is one of the giants of Israeli cultural music. See all eight of them at the Talpiot Industrial Zone, starting at 10 p.m. (02) 673-3814.

And something rare for this evening: a light, even romantic-comic play called *Ben Hur* and *The Rabbi's Wife*, courtesy of Tel Aviv's Beit Lessin theater, plays at the Khan tonight. A football coach and a rebbeztin kibbitz around. 8:30 p.m.

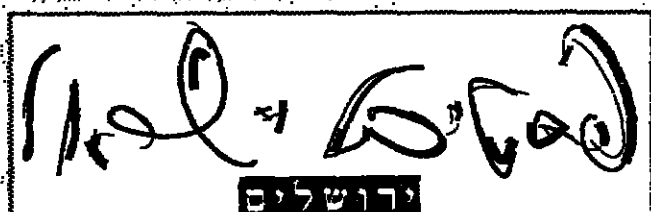
For readers, writers, and other literature lovers, Matilda Serrano-Cohen, a Ladino author and storyteller, presents a reading tonight at 9 p.m. At Yakar, 10 Halamed Hey St., (02) 561-2310. If this literary option doesn't suit you, there is a literary evening at the S.Y. Agnon House, featuring Edna Mitvuch-Miller and André Fishoff. For early birds only, starting at 7:30 p.m. 16 Klausner.

And Points Beyond

Kibbutz Tzora is holding an evening of Folk and Country Music Club, starting at 9 p.m. Call (02) 990-8382.

If you're having trouble keeping up with all the new plays in the last few weeks, here's one more for the list: Haifa Municipal Theater's Stage 2 presents *Borders*, tonight at 8:30. An intense military drama. Call (04) 862-0670.

Tepid tango



Israel Festival Review

By ORA BRAHMAM

PERFUMES OF TANGO Company's Tango For Dos Noga Theater May 25

It is hard to believe that the artistic director of the Israel Festival chose such an inconsequential company to open the dance program of the festival, particularly this year. The show *Perfumes of Tango* turned to be a cabaret style evening with an Argentinean company that came to sell the wonders of their Tango-presenting a tourist show of song and dance routines of little interest. The dancers are well versed in the basics of the Tango's mechanical side, but most of them have nothing more to offer. The dancers were accompanied by a good band

that had to overcome a faulty sound system. A poor start for the festival, let's hope it gets better.

Today at the Festival

Jerusalem Theater
Sherover - Tango por Dos, *Perfumes of Tango*, 9 p.m.
Rebecca Crown - Deux Mondes, *Leitmotive*, 9 p.m. (last performance)
Plaza - Play, *Land of Sounds*, 6 p.m. (for kids); Oriental dance, 7:45 p.m.; Opera duets and arias, 9 p.m.
Foyer - Clarinet and piano duo, 8 p.m.; Arnie Lawrence jazz octet, 11:15 p.m.

International Convention Center - Singer Eleftheria Arvanitaki, 8:30 p.m.

Gerard Behar - Momix, *Baseball*, 9:15 p.m.

Weekender Food & Drink

Nuevo Tex-Mex

By ROBB WALSH

Tex-Mex first blazed across American taste buds in the Wild West of the 1950s. In those days, young Hispanic women with roses pinned to the bosoms of their dresses sashayed around San Antonio's Military Plaza peddling enchiladas, tamales and chili con carne. The "chili queens," as they were known, were famous both for their flirtatious sales pitches and for the spiciness of the chili-spiked specialties they sold.

The chili queens gave Tex-Mex food a pretty exciting reputation. Of course, nobody called it Tex-Mex in those days—it was simply known as Mexican food. In fact, it still was called Mexican food some 80 years later when Americans fell in love with crispy tacos and tortilla chips in the late 1960s.

The term "Tex-Mex" as applied to food didn't come along until the 1970s, when Mexican cooking authorities convinced everyone that this sort of Texan-Mexican fusion cooking wasn't really Mexican food at all. The name was something of an insult to them, so they divided Mexican food into two categories: things such as guacamole and tamales were authentic Mexican foods; the gloppy, cheese-covered platters and fast-food tacos (and all the other stuff that didn't get any respect) were Tex-Mex.

Suddenly, one of America's oldest and most popular regional cooking styles had been demoted to junk-food status. The southwestern-cuisine movement of the 1980s and 1990s didn't do much for Tex-Mex's reputation either. Southwestern chefs turned the ingredients of Mexico and the border states into an elegant and refined new American regional cooking style that made Tex-Mex seem even more dated and cheesy. But then something strange happened. In the early 1990s, Paris, the food capital of the world, went head over heels for Tex-Mex. The unpretentious simplicity of the cooking and the Wild West image of the name sparked the French imagination. (Making cheese enchiladas with aged Gruyère didn't hurt either.)

The reality of Tex-Mex's new-found fame is only beginning to sink in. When you say "Tex-Mex," most people still think of cheese-laden combination plates. But that's starting to change. Over the course of this decade, ingredients that used to seem exotic, like ancho chiles, black beans and cilantro, are finding their way into more and more cupboards.

The Senorita Platter is disappearing and a new kind of Texan-Mexican fusion cuisine is taking its place. Instead of cheese nachos, we're eating wild-mushroom-and-refried-white-bean nachos. There are roasted peppers in the tacos and fresh orange in the salsa. It's not fancy enough to call southwestern cuisine, but it's not old-fashioned Tex-Mex either.

You'll find something pleasantly familiar about this Nuevo Tex-Mex because it's actually just a modern, lighter version of classic Tex-Mex. Yet like the original, it's still crunchy, spicy, eat-it-with-your-fingers food that goes great with frozen margaritas or ice-cold beer. Although Nuevo Tex-Mex dishes use fresh ingredients instead of the usual, prepackaged stuff, we think you'll find these recipes surprisingly easy.

Of course, using fresh ingredients in Tex-Mex cooking isn't really a new idea. The chili queens of San Antonio weren't serving pre-formed tacos, canned chili or instant sauces, either. Back then, fresh ingredients and homemade preparations were a given.

Nuevo Tex-Mex may borrow a few ideas from French Tex-Mex and from southwestern cuisine, but it's also a return to that made-from-scratch spirit of the frontier.

WILD-MUSHROOM NACHOS

Before making these simple nachos, you'll need to make the refried white beans and roasted-tomato sauce (recipes below).

4 15cm. flour tortillas, cut into quarters
cooking spray
2 small portobello mushrooms, sliced (about 225 gr.)
1/4 cup chicken broth or parve



The latest fusion of Texan and Mexican cooking brings a fresh, light and modern spin to this old favorite



(Photo: Creators Syndicate)

substitute
1 Tbsp. fresh lemon juice
1 Tbsp. soy sauce
1 tsp. olive oil
2 Tbsp. chopped fresh or 2 tsp. dried basil
1 Tbsp. chopped fresh or 1 tsp. dried thyme
1 cup refried white beans (recipe below)
1/3 cup roasted-tomato sauce (recipe below)
1/3 cup crumbled feta cheese

Preheat oven to 175°. Place tortilla quarters on a baking sheet coated with cooking spray. Bake at 175° for 8 minutes or until crisp.

Place sliced mushrooms in a shallow baking dish. Drizzle mushrooms with broth, lemon juice, soy sauce and oil and sprinkle with basil and thyme. Toss well. Cover and bake at 175° for 15 minutes or until tender. Drain mushroom slices, discarding liquid.

Spread 1 Tbsp. refried white beans over each tortilla quarter, and top with mushrooms, 1 tsp. roasted-tomato sauce and 1 tsp. feta cheese. Place tortilla quarters on a baking sheet. Bake at 175° for 5 minutes or until tortillas are thoroughly heated. Serve immediately. (Serves 4.)

ROASTED-TOMATO SAUCE

Roasting the tomatoes, pepper and onions gives them a rich, caramelized flavor that stands up to the smoky taste of the chipotle.

1 kg. plum tomatoes, cut in half lengthwise
1 onion, cut into 1cm. thick slices
1 jalapeno pepper, halved and seeded
cooking spray
1 Tbsp. fresh lime juice
1/4 tsp. salt
1 drained canned chipotle chile, seeded

Preheat oven to 260°. Arrange the plum tomatoes, onion slices and jalapeno pepper on a jelly-roll pan coated with cooking spray and bake vegetables at 260° for 30 minutes.

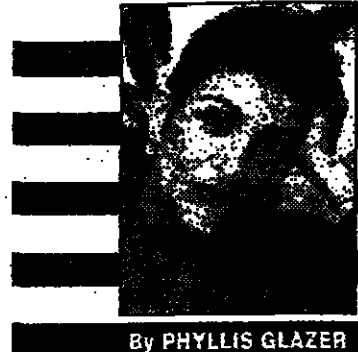
Remove jalapeno pepper from pan. Bake tomatoes and onion slices an additional 15 minutes or until they are soft.

Combine the tomatoes, onion slices, jalapeno pepper, lime juice, salt and chipotle chile in a food processor and process until smooth. (Makes 2 cups.)

REFRIED WHITE BEANS

Make ahead to use in the wild-mushroom nachos and the chicken-and-rajitas enchiladas or just for dipping. The beans can be stored in an airtight container in the refrigerator for up to two weeks.

2 tsp. vegetable oil
1/2 cup finely chopped carrot
1 cup chopped green onions



By PHYLLIS GLAZER

Mix and match
Last week in this column I gave an A-C list of the Hebrew names of herbs and spices and a few basic hints about how to use them. This week, we'll do the next section of the alphabet, from D-M.

Dill (shanitz): Dill is always used fresh in Israel, although dill seed is imported. Dill's feathery leaves add a subtle flavor that naturally enhances cucumbers, green salads, vegetables, soups and stews.

Fennel seeds (za'ei shamar): The vegetable fennel is great in salads, while fennel seeds can be used in curries, baked bean dishes, coleslaw and vinegars. Fennel sweetens the breath and helps relieve gas.

Fenugreek (hille): Fenugreek is available fresh in the souk and used as a vegetable.

Its seeds should be dry roasted to remove their bitter flavor (avoid overcooking as that will make them bitter as well). They are used in Indian curry powder, chutneys and to make the Yemenite condiment hille.

Ginger (zangevill or ginger): Available fresh (shorash zangevill) and powdered (zangevill tahon), ginger is one of the most delicious spices around. It is good in curries, grains, vegetable dishes, rice, fresh and cooked fruit, baked goods, etc.

Marjoram (mayorran): Be careful not to use too much marjoram or your food will taste like

Phyllis's Tips

soap. A pinch of it gives a delicate, sweet and spicy flavor similar to thyme. Use it in salads, soups, cheese dishes, stuffings, quiches, pies, omelets, chicken and potato dishes. Add it just before serving, since its flavor is destroyed by heat. It tastes great when combined with bay, garlic, onion, thyme and basil.

Mint (nana): Use fresh mint to accent fruit and vegetable salads, fruit drinks (water with lemon and mint is very refreshing) and even sauces and dressings.

5-minute cheese recipes
• Coat a firm Camembert cheese with butter. Sprinkle on some blanched almonds or pecans and bake in a medium oven (180°C) until the nuts are lightly browned but the cheese is not yet runny.

• Pour a cup of olive oil in a pot and add a few whole lightly crushed peppercorns, a thyme twig and a few cloves of peeled garlic. Bring to a boil, drop in a handful of basil leaves and pour over feta or Bulgarian cheese. Serve with cut vegetables, crackers, crusty bread and pieces of watermelon.

• Thread halumi cheese and pieces of pepper or cherry tomatoes on bamboo skewers. Grill under the broiler. Brush with herbed olive oil before grilling if desired.

• Serve fried halumi cheese as a snack.

Tips for storing cheese
In honor of Shavuot, Lili Cohen of Gad Dairies has prepared a few hints for storing cheeses.

Kashkeval: Remove the nylon wrap after opening and leave it uncovered in the refrigerator. Those who wish to age kashkeval, making its flavor more pungent, can let it dry out

on a counter. The longer it dries, the sharper its flavor becomes. Wipe occasionally with a paper towel to remove beads of moisture. (I'd also cover it with a paper towel so the dust won't get in.)

Bulgarian cheese: This can be kept for a long period (4-5 days) if it is stored in its own packaging liquid. To reduce saltiness, rinse or soak in water for a half hour or more before using.

Grated mozzarella cheese: Freeze for up to one year in a tightly closed bag.

Mozzarella cheese: Cover completely with water to prevent the exposed side from spoiling and store in refrigerator. To freeze mozzarella cheese: Drain out all the packaging water; rinse the balls; wrap each separately in plastic wrap; place the balls in an airtight bag and freeze.

Halumi cheese: Leftover halumi cheese can be grated on top of a salad or casserole dish.

Ricotta cheese: Leftover ricotta cheese easily blends with pasta, pancakes or casseroles.

Apropos events

According to Ran Rahav, spokesperson for the Apropos Cafe chain, consumer pressure has led to the decision to make the Beit Hama branch kosher lema'hadrin. This means that religious customers can now hold small events (for up to 22 people) in the business room or large events (for up to 150 people) on the events floor. The branch will be closed on Shabbat and a kashrut supervisor from the Tel Aviv Rabbinate will be on the premises.

For those unfamiliar with it, Beit Hama is one of the most beautifully restored Bauhaus buildings in Tel Aviv. It was built in the 1930s and was the site of a terror attack two years ago.

Back

By PHYLLIS GLAZER

Thank you for recently publishing my query (Feedback, April 9) about strawberry jam which refuses to thicken.

This morning I noticed two replies (Feedback, May 14). One refers me to *Microwaves* for a non-pectin recipe. However, I do not have this book, nor do I know where to find it. How can I get the strawberry jam recipe that appears in it?

In the meantime, this year's jam came out runny, as usual, but delicious.

— Esther Herskovic, Jerusalem

Perhaps Jessica Fischer or some other reader who has the cookbook can send us the recipe. Are you sure you used equal amounts of sugar and berries? Did you cook the strawberries long enough to evaporate the excess liquid?

How do you store grains during the summer without putting them in the freezer? Also, have you heard that one should not use Brita filtered water in an electric kettle?

— Thelma Calman, Kiryat Tivon

Grains, legumes and whole wheat flour have a tendency to spoil more quickly in the summer so the best thing to do is to buy them in small quantities. If you don't want to store them in the refrigerator or freezer, try putting a bay leaf or two in the hermetically closed glass jars in which you store them. (Do not store

grains, legumes and flour in containers with loose-fitting lids.) The bay leaf helps prevent infestation.

Reports were published a few years ago discouraging the use of Brita filtered water in electric kettles in which the heat element was exposed. However, the reports that doing so would endanger your health never were proven. If you are concerned about this, either don't use filtered water or use a kettle in which the heat element doesn't come in direct contact with the water.

Phyllis Glazer can be contacted at The Jerusalem Post Magazine, P.O. Box 81, Jerusalem, 91000, or by E-mail: phyllisfood@jpost.co.il.

Do not send stamped, self-addressed envelopes, as inquiries cannot be answered individually. Feedback also appears in The Jerusalem Post Magazine on Friday.

3 large garlic cloves, minced
1 1/2 tsp. ground cumin
2 450 gr. cans cannellini beans or other white beans, undrained
1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro

Heat oil in a large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat. Add carrot; sauté 5 minutes. Add onions and garlic; sauté 2 minutes or until tender.

Stir in cumin and beans; partially mash mixture with a potato masher. Cook 10 minutes or until thick, stirring frequently. Stir in cilantro. (Makes 2 1/2 cups.)

CHICKEN-AND-RAJAS ENCHILADAS

Rajas is Spanish for roasted-pepper strips. Red bell peppers can be substituted for the poblano chiles, if you like. Be sure to prepare the refried white beans (recipe above) before starting this recipe.

2 large poblano chiles
cooking spray
2 120 gr. skinned, boned chicken breasts, cut into 1/3cm. strips
1 cup chopped tomato
3/4 cup thinly sliced onion
1/4 tsp. freshly ground pepper
4 25cm. flour tortillas
1 cup refried white beans
1 cup shredded hard yellow cheese (optional)
fresh cilantro sprigs (optional)

Preheat broiler. Cut poblanos in half lengthwise and discard seeds and membranes. Place poblano halves, skin sides up, on a foil-lined baking sheet; flatten with hand. Broil for 10 minutes or until blackened. Place in a zip-top plastic bag and seal. Let stand 10 minutes. Peel chiles and cut into 1/3cm. strips.

Place a medium-sized nonstick skillet coated with cooking spray over medium-high heat until hot. Add chicken, tomato, and onion; sauté 5 minutes or until chicken is done. Stir in pepper.

Warm tortillas according to package directions. Spread about 1/4 cup refried white beans down center of each tortilla. Divide the chicken mixture, chiles and

cheese, if desired, evenly among the tortillas and roll up. Garnish enchiladas with cilantro sprigs, if desired. (Serves 4.)

STRAWBERRY MARGARITAS

3 1/2 cups strawberries
2 1/2 cups crushed ice
1/2 cup tequila
1/2 cup fresh lime juice
1/4 cup sugar
3 Tbsp. Cointreau (orange-flavored liqueur)
lime wedges (optional)

Combine strawberries, ice, tequila, lime juice, sugar and liqueur in a blender and process until the mixture is smooth. Pour the margaritas into 4 large glasses. Garnish margaritas with a lime wedge, if desired. Serve immediately. (Serves 4.)

THREE-PEPPER SALSA

This spicy salsa is not for those who can't take the heat.

1 1/2 cups boiling water
3 dried ancho chiles or 1/2 tsp. crushed red pepper

2 large poblano chiles
1 large yellow bell pepper
1 cup diced tomato
1/2 cup diced red onion
1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro
3 Tbsp. orange juice
2 Tbsp. lime juice
2 Tbsp. minced seeded serrano chile
1/4 tsp. salt

Combine water and ancho chiles in a small bowl; cover ancho and let stand for 30 minutes or until soft. Drain well, seed and chop.

Preheat broiler. Cut poblanos and bell pepper in half lengthwise; discard seeds and membranes. Place poblanos and bell pepper halves, skin sides up, on a foil-lined baking sheet; flatten with hand. Broil for 10 minutes or until blackened. Place in a zip-top plastic bag; seal. Let stand 10 minutes. Peel and dice poblanos and bell pepper.

Combine ancho, roasted poblanos and bell pepper, tomato and the remaining ingredients in a medium-sized bowl, cover and chill. (Serves 9.)

Creators Syndicate, Inc.

The big chile

It's a little-known fact that the chile pepper is one of the most important ingredients in Mexican cuisine. It's also one of the most versatile. There are over 20 different varieties of chiles, each with its own unique flavor and heat. Some are mild and sweet, while others are hot and spicy. The most common chile used in Mexican cooking is the jalapeno, but there are many others worth knowing about.

Ancho: This is a mild, sweet chile that is often used in salsas and stews. It has a long, boat-like shape and a dark, leathery skin.

Jalapeno: This is a medium-hot chile that is very common in Mexican cuisine. It has a pointed shape and a wrinkled skin.

Poblano: This is a large, mild chile that is often used in soups and stews. It has a heart-like shape and a smooth skin.

Serrano: This is a hot, spicy chile that is often used in salsas and stews. It has a pointed shape and a wrinkled skin.

Tabasco: This is a very hot, spicy chile that is often used in salsas and stews. It has a small, pointed shape and a wrinkled skin.

Chipotle: This is a smoked, dried chile that is often used in salsas and stews. It has a wrinkled skin and a smoky flavor.

Guajillo: This is a mild, sweet chile that is often used in salsas and stews. It has a long, pointed shape and a smooth skin.

Arbol: This is a hot, spicy chile that is often used in salsas and stews. It has a small, pointed shape and a wrinkled skin.

Chile de Ancho: This is a mild, sweet chile that is often used in salsas and stews. It has a long, boat-like shape and a dark, leathery skin.

Chile de Jalapeno: This is a medium-hot chile that is very common in Mexican cuisine. It has a pointed shape and a wrinkled skin.

Chile de Poblano: This is a large, mild chile that is often used in soups and stews. It has a heart-like shape and a smooth skin.

Chile de Serrano: This is a hot, spicy chile that is often used in salsas and stews. It has a pointed shape and a wrinkled skin.

Chile de Tabasco: This is a very hot, spicy chile that is often used in salsas and stews. It has a small, pointed shape and a wrinkled skin.

Chile de Chipotle: This is a smoked, dried chile that is often used in salsas and stews. It has a wrinkled skin and a smoky flavor.

Chile de Guajillo: This is a mild, sweet chile that is often used in salsas and stews. It has a long, pointed shape and a smooth skin.

Chile de Arbol: This is a hot, spicy chile that is often used in salsas and stews. It has a small, pointed shape and a wrinkled skin.

Christianity's Weekender mini-mosaic Travel



An aerial view of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre

(David Rubinger)

Nineteenth-century photos show the courtyard of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem's Old City filled with Russian pilgrims. Some had spent all their money and journeyed by foot to reach this holy place.

In this same spot, almost 1,000 years earlier, Crusaders who had butchered every Moslem soldier in the city and burned the Jews alive in their synagogue, sang out heart-felt praise to the "prince of peace."

This is but one of many contradictions that can make a visit to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, considered the holiest place in Christendom, baffling, depressing — and challenging. The church, so complex, so shadowy, gloomy and splintered, is a microcosm of the history of Christianity, and highlights how intricately complex Jerusalem is. It is a mini-mosaic of Christian communities, with all their harmonies, discordances and fractures. It is a pattern that the other major faiths share and which helps create, as the scholar Thomas Idinopulos puts it in his superb history of Jerusalem, "a city dripping with sanctity and tragedy."

Though revered as encompassing the sites of both the crucifixion and burial of Jesus, the church's historical authenticity can be — and has — been questioned. Protestants, in fact, recognize another spot, the Garden Tomb, as the burial site. But Orthodox and Catholic churches accept the sanctity of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

Since its dedication in 335 by the

Emperor Constantine (the first Roman emperor to accept Christianity), the church has been repeatedly destroyed or damaged, restored, modified, expanded, standing, as Idinopulos puts it, as "a monument to the ideals and animosities of Jerusalem's Christians."

After passing through the main doors (the keys to which have been held by a Moslem family for many centuries as a compromise solution to Christian bickering over control), turn right and walk up the winding staircase to the chapel marking the traditional

long crack in this rock under Golgotha occurred when Jesus died, exposing the skull of Adam at the base; the sins of the first man redeemed by the death of Jesus.

Such overlapping of symbolism in religious sites and events is common in the development of sacred thinking in Jerusalem.

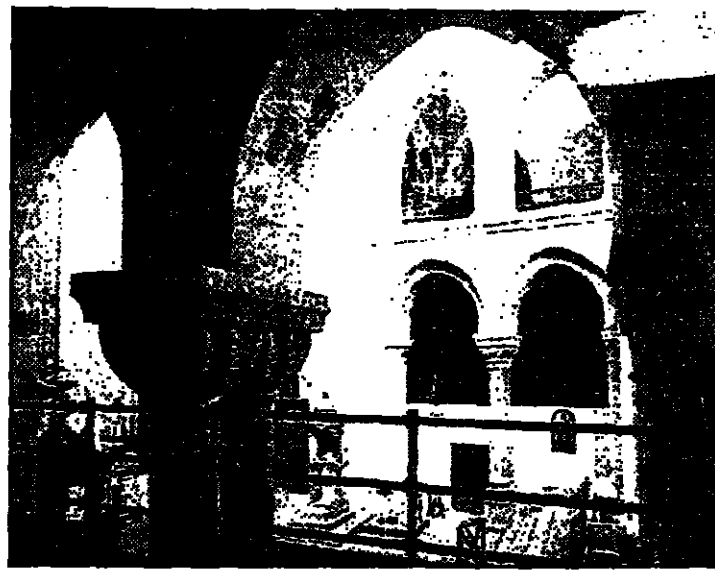
Returning to the main entrance hall, we find the pink Stone of Unction, the traditional place where the body of Jesus was washed and prepared. The stone is actually a cap to protect the original rock from being chipped away by pilgrims.

Each lamp above the stone belongs to and is maintained by a different denomination.

The rotunda, the main site, marking the tomb of Jesus, lies just to the west. It was reconstructed after a fire in 1808, and just recently received essential repairs.

Constantine built this section as the center of the church, flanked by a basilica and garden (sections of the Constantinian building still remain, especially on the north side). He completely stripped away the bluffs and large family catacombs that had been dug into them, but he left one slab, where belief said Jesus had lain. That was preserved and isolated under a small, central monument called the edicule (the present edicule dates after the 1808 fire).

Construction of the church, originally called the Church of the Resurrection, meant dismantling a pagan temple built here in the second century by the Roman Emperor Hadrian (some of its remains lie within the Russian Alexander Hospice, just east of the church).



In this gallery old stones were preserved wherever possible. (W. Braun)



A group of nuns and priests look up at the newly renovated rotunda of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. (Brian Hendler)

The small Syrian chapel at the western end of the rotunda is barren and sooty, due to a disagreement with the Armenians over the right to repair it after a fire; repairs imply jurisdiction.

A hole in this chapel leads into bedrock and the remains of a burial cave which was probably connected to the slab in the rotunda. It is associated with the family tomb of Joseph of Arimathea, where Jesus was hastily buried in its entrance. (John 19: 41-2). Numerous plaques and chapels mark moments within the events of the Gospels or are dedicated to an array of saints.

Toward the far eastern end of the church, a few stairs descend to a mosaic belonging to the Armenian Church commemorating the massacre of Armenians by the Ottoman Turks in 1915. The stairs continue down to the Chapel of the True Cross, discovered here according to tradition by Helena, the mother of Constantine. The chapel is evidently part of a first-century quarry; niches are still visible where blocks were removed.

It was Helena's identification of Christian holy sites, and her example of pious pilgrimage, together with her son's construction projects that revitalized Jerusalem, which became a major international Byzantine city. Medieval world maps centered on Jerusalem. Pilgrims from around the rapidly expanding Christian world — Greeks, Ethiopians, Armenians, Copts, Persians, Syrians, Indians — visited Jerusalem. Ascending from Helena's chapel, you can see the thousands of crosses these pil-

grims carved into the stairwell. Visitors are welcome to watch Sunday services and processions here, where, among the ancient stones, diverse Christian communities worship side by side, despite the still simmering centuries-old bitter rivalries.

Enter the Ethiopian chapel on the right side of the courtyard, and climb up to the roof of the old destroyed Crusader cloister. As a result of an ongoing dispute with the Coptic Church, the Ethiopian Christians have been relegated to the roof, where there is a cluster of huts.

For almost 1,700 years people have been clinging to their little corners of space in and around the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Some pilgrims kiss the stone to which they attach magical powers. As prominent a pilgrim as St. Jerome warned in the fourth century against faithless and superstitious pilgrimages.

Despite quarrels, bloodshed and political manipulations; despite the very earthly city of shrines, invisible borders, fragments, rubble, garbage and souvenir shops, a steady stream of the faithful manage to focus their deepest prayers and yearnings on their particular vision of a heavenly Jerusalem.

The church is open from 4 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. No shorts or sleeveless garments are permitted. Times of Sunday services can be found at the Christian Information Center inside Jaffa Gate (02) 627-2692.

Allan Rabinowitz is a licensed tour guide. He can be reached at allan@jpost.co.il

Close Encounters

By Allan Rabinowitz

spot of Golgotha, the hill on which Jesus was crucified. This chapel, which embraces several stations of the Via Dolorosa (The Way of the Cross) was once a separate church until it was joined to the main one by the Crusaders in the 12th century.

Like the entire church, the chapel has been divided up like a pie. The southern portion, under Catholic control, starkly marks the spots where Jesus was prepared for the cross. The second section, filled with Greek Orthodox ornamentation, includes the spot of the crucifixion. A small patch of exposed bedrock indicates the remains of a hill under the construction.

Walk downstairs on the north side of the chapel, turn right and right again, and you'll face a vertical slab of rock covered by an iron grate. According to tradition, the

The keys to the church have long been held by a Moslem family to prevent different Christian communities from arguing over them. (Karen Ben-Zion)

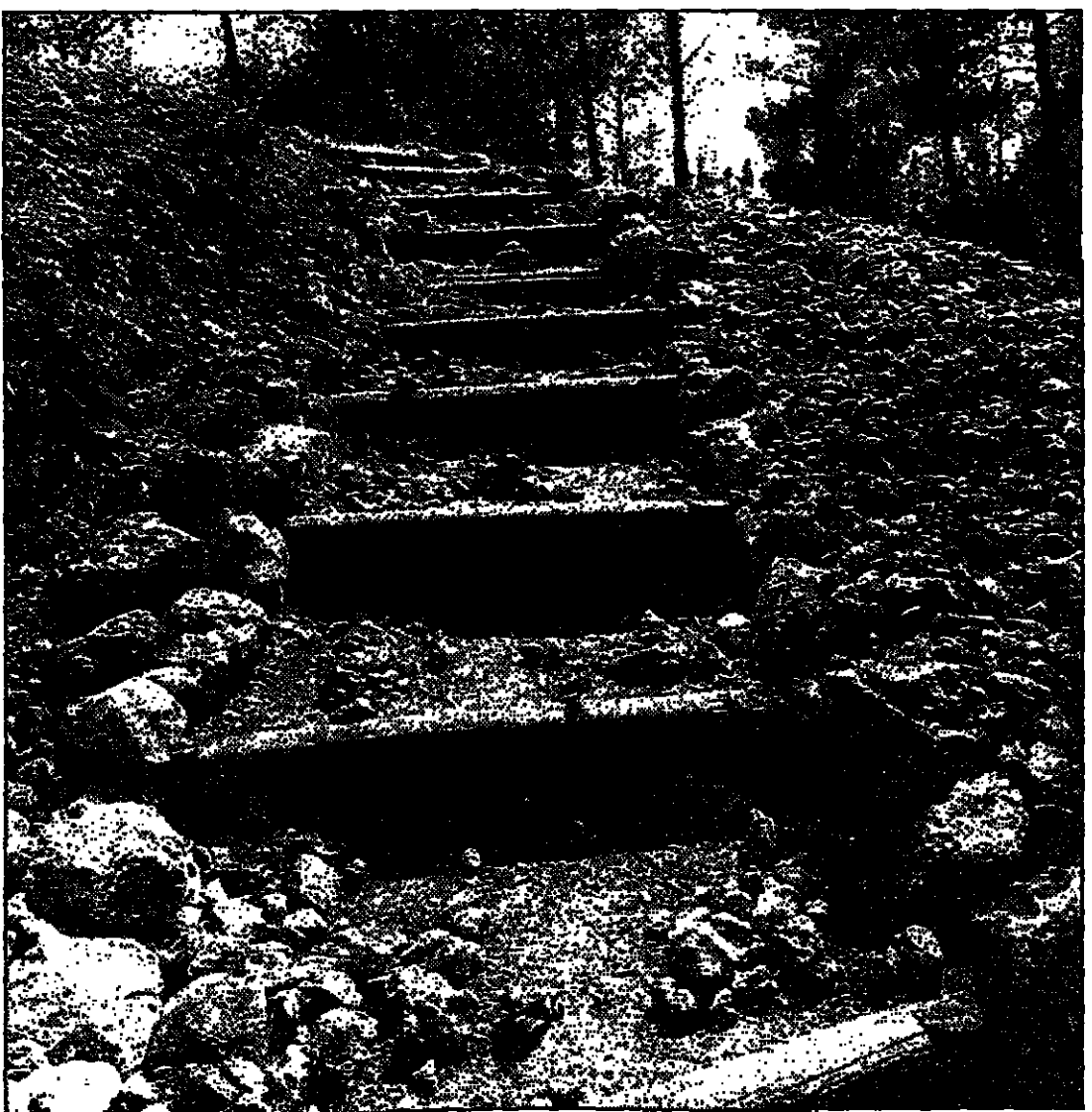
This raises the tantalizing question of whether Hadrian placed the temple here to eradicate a tradition already established by the early Christians that identified and sanctified the site. (Hadrian also built a temple dedicated to Jupiter on the Temple Mount). Or did Constantine perhaps attempt to solidify Christianity's newly won position as the official religion of the Roman empire by burying the old pagan shrines?

Both views have been argued but there is no conclusive answer. The edicule contains two small rooms. The first is the Angel's Chapel where, according to tradition, Mary Magdalene visited the grave on that first Sunday, and saw a white angel. In the second

tiny room, a stone slab marks the tomb itself. Through the several sooty holes in the structure, fire bursts out during the Holy Fire Ceremony of the Eastern Orthodox Churches, the Saturday before Easter Sunday.

Innumerable processions have flowed in and out of the space around the tomb. Endless prayers have risen here and echoed off the domed walls, as have the quarrels, sometimes even physical fights, over control of the site.

Not only the tomb itself, but every structure, every chapel, slab, lamp and apse has been allotted or divided. The tiny chapel at the western end of the edicule, for example, marking where the head of Jesus lay, is in Coptic hands.



The most dramatic remains on the JNF trail known as Caesar's Way is this series of stone steps, which were once part of the ancient Roman road to Jerusalem. (Ariel Jerolimski)

The long and winding Roman road Day Tripper

By Haim Shapiro

The road from Moshav Bar Giora to the Elah Valley (Route 375) is now a winding country road with relatively little traffic, but in Roman times the road was a major thoroughfare and the remains along the road bear witness to this.

A number of these remains have been incorporated into a Jewish National Fund trail in the forest that stretches along both sides of the road. I visited the site with Yossi Sapir, director of the JNF's Adullam Region.

The trail, known as Caesar's Way, is not only marked with the conventional painted trail markings on stones and trees, but also by JNF signposts, which note the length of the trail (3.5 kilometers) and the fact that there are picnic tables and a play area for children. Groups with more than one car can leave a car at the bottom of the trail, but even if this is impossible, the round trip is only seven kilometers, which should not be too much of a strain for even inexperienced hikers.

Those coming from the direction of Bar Giora should start watching for the trail shortly after passing Moshav Matta. On the left is a sign marking Hurvat Hanot, which is on the right side of the road, just opposite a large play area. It

includes what appears to be a roofless building of indeterminate age, which is said to be the remains of an inn from the Ottoman period.

The structure, however, has a mosaic floor that is clearly Byzantine. The mosaic is covered with sand, which you can clear away with the help of a rag left there. After you enjoy trying to decipher the Greek inscription, cover the mosaic again so that it does not become damaged by the light.

Across the parking area from the mosaic, next to the play area, is a small hill of stones. According to Sapir, this mound is known as Givat Goliath, the hill of Goliath. It was the custom in ancient times for every pilgrim coming to Jerusalem to place a stone on this mound, causing it to grow.

Today there are a series of wooden stairs leading to the top of the mound so you can climb up, enjoy the relatively limited view and leave a stone if you wish.

THE TRAIL itself goes past the play area and follows, at the beginning, a forest rangers' road. At this point we are on the southern side of the ravine. Although it has been planted, you can see later that the foliage here is much sparser than on the northern side

of the ravine, which has less direct sunlight.

Just before the trail crosses the highway, you can see a cistern with a fine stone arch over a doorway and a set of stone steps leading downward inside.

The cistern, which is cut out of the rock, has one large supporting pillar in the center, a feature which is common in the Nabatean cisterns of the Negev, but which is unique this far north. Although much of the cistern is filled with rocks, you can still see water inside. Note the white plastered walls, which would indicate that it had been used until fairly recently.

After the cistern, the path crosses the highway. Cross with care, even though large signs warn of a pedestrian crossing in both directions.

Once across, you will find yourself on the more shaded part of the trail, where deciduous trees vie with the tall pine trees, while a wealth of creepers make their way up toward the sunlight.

Many have criticized the JNF's planting of pines, saying they impede all other vegetation. But Sapir points out that in this forest the pines have provided the necessary shade to encourage the slower-growing native oaks and other

species. All along the way, you can see evidence of cut stones, forming what were perhaps once wine presses.

However, the most dramatic remain here is a series of steps cut into the stone, steps which were once part of the ancient Roman road to Jerusalem. They appear at the point where the road begins a fairly sharp incline.

What is not clear is whether the steps were left as they were to give a foothold for animals and people on foot, or whether they were covered with gravel to provide a more comfortable ride for those traveling by cart.

At the top of the stairs is a small stone cistern, cut into the rock. It is believed that the cistern was cut after this part of the road was no longer in use.

Near the stairs are the stones that formed the base of an ancient olive press. The olives would have been crushed elsewhere and then brought to the press, where the stones served to hold down the wooden screw mechanism.

Just after the olive press, a stairway leads down to the lower parking lot. By this time you should be ready to enjoy a picnic lunch at one of the many picnic tables that can be found all along the route.

Weekender Leisure

Less is more



Golf

Flair

By Greer Fay Cashman

If there is one word to define the summer fashion trends, it's minimalism. That may not necessarily apply to bridal and evening wear, but it goes for just about everything else.

The less is more concept can be seen in the display windows and on the racks of dress shops and boutiques across the country. Often it is little more than a label that differentiates between the creations of one designer and another.

Many manufacturers are buying their fabrics from the same suppliers, which means that consumers are subjected to the same colors and textures in almost every collection.

Solids are favored over prints; and synthetics are riding high even in those collections that also feature good quality cottons and linens.

Solid colors are always safe, as

Dan
Cassidi



are minimalist designs.

In fact, there are some women who will always vote for minimalism, no matter what's in vogue, because they like clothing that is classic and uncluttered.

But even when the cut and the finish are superb — which is rare these days — minimalism can be boring, unless one plays with pieces and experiments with mix and match options.

For instance, if you have a black suit and a lemon-colored suit, each creates a different impression on its own. The black, which is formal and businesslike for day wear, can be jazzed up with jewelry for evening wear. The lemon suit looks relaxed and summery. But if you team your lemon jacket with your black skirt or dress or conversely wear your black jacket with your lemon dress or skirt, you can create two new elegant outfits.

Most of us experiment with the clothes in our closets once we already have them, yet we seldom buy two outfits at the same time with interchanging in mind. But in a time of recession, those women who absolutely must have at least two new outfits each season should seriously consider buying them in tandem — and then mixing and matching.

It may be the recession factor that has influenced the inclusion of black and charcoal grey in so many collections. Black is not, after all, a summer color. But it does go with everything — which makes it a good prop for garments in brighter tones.

If vivid contrasts are not your thing, Carole Godin of Comme il Faut offers tone on tone options in

shades of lavender or light beige and cream, as does Dan Cassidi.

Some people tend to confuse minimalism with skimpy, and while some minimalist designs may indeed be categorized as skimpy, most designers focus on comfort no less than on shape. The result is a slender silhouette that is not tight.

This is particularly evident in Godin's designs, as it is in the Golf collection where the fabric does not drag but falls into a natural drape even in the slimmest fitting of dresses.

What's good about minimalism is that it has an infinite shelf life. If the fabric is lasting and the garment is well produced, it can be worn for years, even when styles become more extravagant. A long minimalist sheath under an opulent skirt saves the trouble of a petticoat and sits much better than a waist-length or hip-length top.

Similarly, if it is worn with a fancy jacket, the jacket gets better play because it has no competition. The important thing is the finish. Although so many of the tank and slip dresses look as if they all came off the same production line, turning them inside out may tell a different story. If the seams are wide and well sewn, the garment is worth buying and will serve you well, especially if it's in one of those stretch fabrics that return to their original shape when laundered.

Even those of us who are not overly keen on synthetics have to acknowledge that these stretch fabrics are a boon to women who gain and lose weight easily. A few kilos more, a few kilos less — the dress still fits. With pure cotton, it just won't happen.

Bridge Rabbi's magic trick

By MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

East dealer
Neither side vulnerable

North (Joe Simmonds)
♠ 8 4
♥ 9 3
♦ 9 7 6 4 3
♣ A 10 9 7

West (S. Klein) East (E. Klein)
♠ Q 9 7 3 ♠ J 5
♥ Q 10 8 6 4 2 ♥ A J 5
♦ 5 2 ♦ K J 10 8
♣ 4 ♣ Q 6 5 3

South (The Rabbi)
♠ A K 10 6 2
♥ K 7
♦ A Q
♣ K J 8 2

West North East South
1♥ pass 2♥ 2 NT
pass 3 NT (all pass)

Opening lead: ♥6

If you're a regular reader of this column, you'll have noticed how I sometimes go out on a limb, mixing a little Torah into the bridge analysis.

This Sunday is Shavuot and this Shabbat we read Parashat Bamidbar. It wasn't easy to come up with a connection between bridge and the Sinai desert, but then again...

Once upon a time during the Six Day War there was this guy in the Sinai who had fallen into quicksand. An Israeli snatched by and heard the man crying for help. The Israeli realized that the man was an Egyptian, and refused. "Please," pleaded the drowning man, "give me a hand, give me a hand." "OK," said the Israeli, "if you insist. You have ace-king-jack-fourth, queen-third, four-ten and ace-doubleton..."

A more direct connection between bridge and Judaism comes in the form of a book series by England's David Bird and Australia's Ron Klinger. The third in the series has just been published by Peter Crawley, and is entitled *Rabbi's Magic Trick*. In this collection of bridge tales, an English Rabbi takes a holiday in Israel.

Here's a sampling from the chapter "View of the Mediterranean." "Every two or three years the Rabbi took a prolonged holiday to Israel, visiting his many friends there. On the present occasion he was staying with Joe and Katya Simmonds. Joe had been a successful lawyer back in England but had retired many years before. The couple now lived in Netanya, in a simple flat that overlooked the Mediterranean. The

Rabbi admired the view, the sea sparkling in the afternoon sunshine.

"What a sight!" he exclaimed. "Perhaps, one day, I could retire and follow you here." Joe Simmonds smiled. "You would be among friends if you did, Rabbi," he replied. "Many of them are looking forward to seeing you tonight at the Club." The Rabbi's eyes lit up.

"I remember last time I played there," he replied. "That amazing old man... I forget his name, he made Six Clubs against us. Does he still play?"

"No, no, he died a while back," replied Simmonds. "Must have been shortly after you last came."

"Well, he could die happy after that Six Clubs," declared the Rabbi. "I could not believe it. At the time I was annoyed I had not found the diamond lead but, well, I cannot begrudge the old man his triumph now."

That evening the Netanya Bridge Club was crowded, many occasional players having turned up to meet the Rabbi from England. The first round brought Sol and Edie Klein to the Rabbi's table. The Rabbi was pleased to find that the change of country had not affected his ability to pick up good hands.

This was the first board (see the diagram, the Rabbi sitting South).

Sol Klein led the six of hearts and stared at the dummy with a puzzled expression. "You give him three on that?" he queried.

Joe Simmonds nodded confidently. "Perhaps you have not seen the Rabbi play before," he replied. "He does not need points like most people do."

East won the heart lead with the ace and returned the jack of hearts to the Rabbi's king. How to play it? East would have to hold the king of diamonds and was surely a strong favorite for the club queen too. The only problem would be if East held four clubs to the queen rather than two or three. How could he arrange three minor-suit leads from the table?

The Rabbi soon spotted the answer. At trick three he led the jack of clubs and overtook with dummy's ace. He then led the 10 of clubs.

When East followed with a small card, the Rabbi unblocked the eight from the South hand. West showed out, but the Rabbi was now in command of the hand.

He led the nine of clubs, covered by the queen and king, and could then return to the club seven to take the diamond finesse.

This succeeded and he now had nine tricks."

Readers may contact Matthew Granovetter by email at gran@netvision.net.il

Chess Might as well resign

By NIGEL SHORT

In my first proper coaching assignment, I have been assisting Russian Champion Peter Svidler here in the undistinguished Andalusian town of Linares. The opposition is certainly tough but apart from providing *Fawcett Towers* videos and losing to him regularly at pool every evening, it is hard to discern what useful contribution I have made, as my "charge" seems to know much more about chess than I do.

Still, coaching is not so bad. I certainly do not wish to be playing seriously some years hence as the strain of top level chess is simply too great.

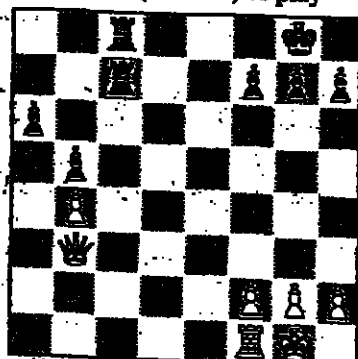
The fanatical Viktor Korchnoi, who still performs with (mostly) great skill at an age when most players have long hung up their encyclopedias, doubtless disagrees, but even he must have contemplated retirement after the following debacle.

White: Korchnoi
Black: Estrada
Linares, 1998

1. e4 Nf6 2. Nc3 e6 3. e4 c5 4. e5 Ng8... Looks like a loss of two tempi but things are not so clear. White is slightly over extended, 5. Ng3 d6 6. exd6 Bxd6 7. d4 cxd4 8. Nxd4 a6 9. Be3 Nf6 10. Be2... The violent and logical 10. g4!? has also been tried but it is understandably not to everyone's taste. 10... 0-0 11. Qd2 Bb4!? 12. a3 Ne4 13. Qc2 Qa5. Engaging in some sharp tactics. 14. 0-0 Nxc3 15. Nh3! After 15. bxc3 Be7 White is saddled with weak pawns so Korchnoi prefers to mix it. 15... Nxe2+ 16. Qxe2 Qa4 17. axb4 Qxb3 18. Bc5! The point of the preceding moves, 19. Ra3 trapping the queen is threatened. 18... Na7 18... b5? 19. Qe4! is more than a little embarrassing. 19... Ra3 Nxc5 20. Rxb3 Nxb3 21. Qd3. The sting in the tail. The knight is snared but victory still requires some work.

21... e5 22. Qxb3 Be6 23. Qc3 Rf8 24. b3 Rd4? 24... f6 would make things much harder. 25. Qe3! Rxd8 25... f6 26. f4! 26. Qxe5 b5 27. c5 Rxb3 28. c6 Rxd8... Rxb4 offered better prospects but objectively the game should still be lost. 29. e7 Rcd3 30. Qd5! Menacing 31. Qd8+ 30... R4xc7 31. Qxb3.

Black: (Estrada) to play



White: (Korchnoi)

A queen for a rook ahead the position is an easy technical win. However, the former World Championship finalist became infuriated when his Mexican opponent refused to see the futility of continuing. 31... Re1 32. Qa2 R8c6 33. e4 Rxf1+ 34. Kxf1 g6 35. Qd2 Rxd3 36. f3 Kg7 37. Kf2 h6 38. h4 h5 39. gxf5 Rxb4 40. Qb2+?? This and the previous moves were played quickly and with an impatient banging of the pieces. Already the game can no longer be won by White in my view. It was clear that the veteran had failed to observe Black's threat. 40... Kg8 41. h4g6?? Oh dear. 41... Rb2+ Korchnoi gave up.

In the final round of this event, Korchnoi addressed his opponent, the leading Qatari player, Al Modiahi, with the words: "Do you know English?"

"Yes."

"Why don't you resign?"

© Telegraph Group

Comme il Faut



السلامة من الالتهاب

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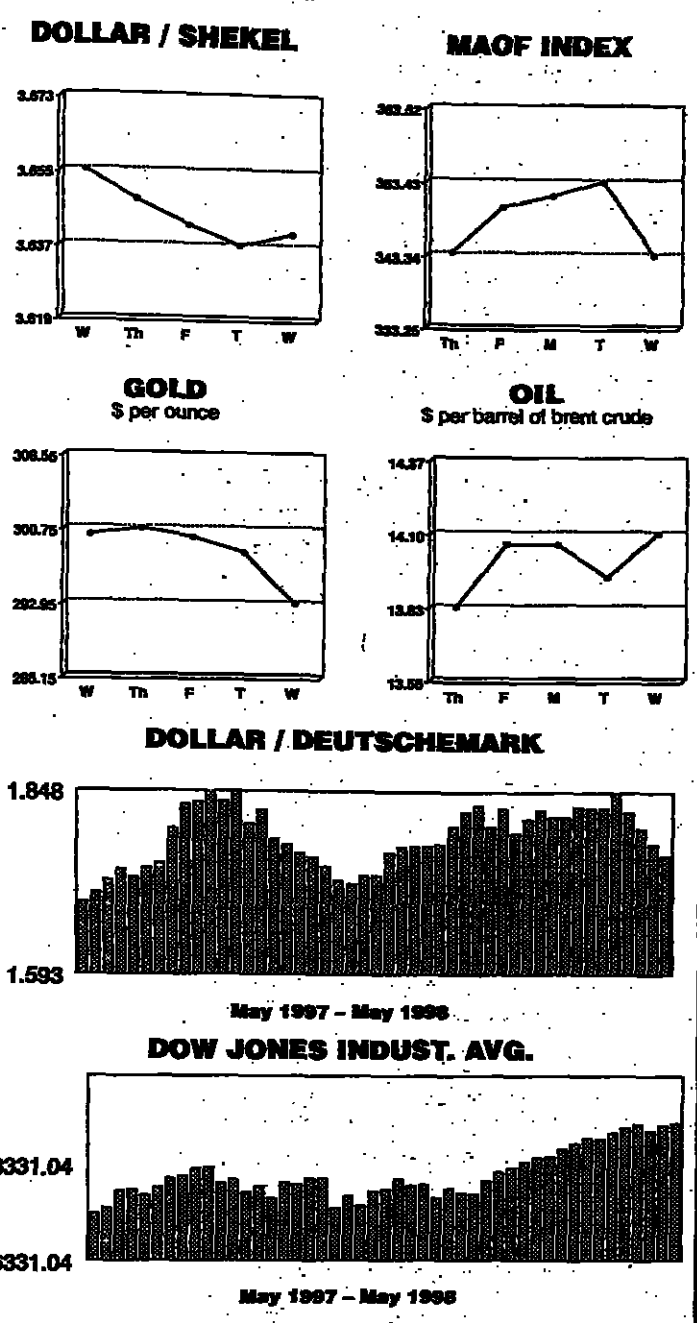
Thursday,
May 28, 1998

BUSINESS & FINANCE

15

MARKETS

in brief



Dead Sea Works announces new structure

The board of Dead Sea Works yesterday announced a series of departmental and management structural changes in a bid to improve the company's performance. Among the changes, Shuki Gold becomes deputy managing director in addition to his current role as financial chief. Also, a new department will be created on the operational front, which will be responsible for environmental issues, energy and establishing new projects. *David Harris*

IMF's Fischer praises Israeli economy

The Israeli economy is on the right track, International Monetary Fund First deputy managing director Stanley Fischer said yesterday. Speaking at Ben-Gurion University, Fischer said, "now Israel is part of the global world. The success of the Israeli economy is proof of why there should be integration into the international economy." *Itim*

El Al to discuss workers' bonuses

El Al's directors yesterday approved a proposal to allow company management to discuss with staff the possibility of a one-time bonus payment. The company said the payments have become possible as losses were reduced from more than \$80 million in 1996 to \$4m. last year. *David Harris*

Lucent purchases 20% of WebAccess for \$6m.

Lucent Technologies announced yesterday it has made a \$6 million investment, amounting to a 20% stake, in WaveAccess, a high-speed wireless Internet access technology company based in Ramatana.

The agreement with Lucent, based in New Jersey, includes an agreement to jointly develop high-speed, low-cost wireless data solutions for network providers based on the digital packet transmission protocol of the Internet.

Lucent supplies mobile and fixed wireless communications systems. Other minority shareholders in WaveAccess, established in 1993, include two venture capital funds, Tezu and Nitzanim. *Nina Gilbert*

Moody's: Indonesia's bad loans up to 75%

By DAN MURPHY

JAKARTA (Bloomberg) — Indonesia's banking system is "broadly insolvent," and as much as 75 percent of outstanding loans at the country's banks could be non-performing, Moody's Investors Service said.

"By US standards... 30-75 percent of the banks' loans are, or soon will be, non-performing," the credit rating service said. "Social and political unrest continue to cause capital flight and will delay government efforts to deal with the crisis, as well as the return of foreign or domestic investment."

Moody's gloomy assessment was one more piece of bad news for the world's fourth most-populous country, which is in its first recession in three decades, facing soaring prices and unemployment.

The country's companies, which have more than \$78 billion in foreign debt, are largely insolvent. "You have a total meltdown of the banking system (and) the economy's grinding to a complete halt," said Vivek Gandhi, who helps manage about \$1 billion in Asian stocks for Aberdeen Asset

Management Asia Ltd. in Singapore. "The country's bank is in a state of collapse."

The Jakarta Stock Market plunged on the Moody's report, with the benchmark index, falling 4.75% on concern about rising insolvency and corporate bankruptcies. The rupiah fell 100 rupiah to 10,400 to the dollar.

Moody's predicts the cost of writing off bad loans and topping up the cash in banks will "easily" reach 200 trillion rupiah (\$20 billion) this year.

That's equivalent to 32% of 1997's gross domestic product of 624 billion rupiah, and more than 1997's government budget of 132 trillion rupiah.

Moody's also said the situation could get worse, with the costs mounting and more banks taken over by the government.

So far this year, about 40 banks have had their management seized by Bank Indonesia, the central bank, because they'd become reliant on cheap government credit for their survival.

Moody's didn't act on Indonesia's sovereign credit rating, which remains at B3; the lowest Moody's rating for any country.

Clal profits surge on sale of subsidiary

Clal Israel's profits quadrupled in the first quarter to NIS 103 million from NIS 24m. the same period last year, mostly due to the sale of Clal Trading to the Ze'evi group for NIS 70m.

The company said that in the next quarter it also anticipates capital gains of some NIS 110m. from the sale of various activities, including sale of shares in ECI Telecom to Koor Industries and the sale of Mashav's holdings in Tambour.

Clal is also expected to earn another NIS 20m. from the sale of its holdings in Hypershuk to Ze'evi.

As part of its strategic plan, Clal aims to divest activities in weak areas and focus on investing in capital markets, insurance, tourism and real estate.

In the first quarter, the company said it began activities in the area of water network and environmental projects and information technology.

During the period, Clal's profits in its insurance activities

were up 18% and profits were stable in real estate, mostly due to the completion of the purchase of Shikun Ufritah in the quarter.

In the industry and investments sector, profits were down 80%, mostly due to the slowdown in the economy and losses from the

Barak long-distance telephone company.

This were offset by positive results of Elite's activities in Europe.

In the first quarter, the company said it continued to take efficiency measures, including the moving of its production lines from Kamat Gan to Nazareth, the implementation of reorganization of the group, and investment in computerization of activities.

Revenues in the quarter were down slightly to NIS 492.3m. from NIS 494.9m. in the same quarter last year.

COMPANY RESULTS

By JERUSALEM POST STAFF

Elite's profits soar

Elite Industries' profit soared in the first quarter to NIS 27.1m. from NIS 1.4m. in the same period last year, when results were affected by one-time costs of NIS 26.6m.

The country's leading sweets and snacks producer said the results were achieved, despite the slowdown in the economy and competition from imports.



Striking Greeks

Greek workers clash with riot police during a demonstration in central Athens yesterday. A nationwide strike, called by the General Confederation of Greek Workers against the government's privatization plans, disrupted urban transport and caused traffic chaos in Athens. *(Reuters)*

Unemployment at 8.3% at end of 1st quarter

By DAVID HARRIS

Unemployment stood at 8.3 percent of the workforce at the end of the first quarter, according to initial data published yesterday by the Central Bureau of Statistics.

The jobless figure showed no change on the February total, but both of these were 0.1% higher than the number of unemployed in January and a 0.4% increase on the July-September rates.

At the same time, the workforce grew 1% from the beginning of the year until the end of February.

The bureau released a variety of economic indicators yesterday, some of which point to a possible end to the slowdown.

Both Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman and his Director General Ben-Zion Zilberfarb yesterday spoke with cautious optimism about the figures, hoping that as the Treasury predicted last July, the economy will turn around toward a path of renewed growth in the second half of this year.

Industrial production grew at an annualized 7%-8% in February and March, but the bureau warned

against early optimism, given the mixed signals in recent months.

Additionally, there are signs that the slowdown in investments in factories and associated equipment is bottoming out.

In April, imports of investment goods rose 2% after reductions in every month since September 1997.

On the other hand, imports for the purpose of production only increased 2% during March and April, considerably smaller rises than those seen since last year.

Retail sales increased 12%-13% in the first four months compared to sales last year.

Exports, meanwhile, rose in the first four months to a yearly 11%-14%, particularly in electronics. The export figures exclude diamonds and exports from the territories.

Once again the data show foreign tourists are still staying away in droves, but Israelis are increasingly holidaying at home, with a rise of 29%-34% in the first third of the year, following 18%-27% rises during the previous six months.

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Swiss say SNB may sell half its gold

By THERESA WALDROP and RETO GREGORI

BERN (Bloomberg) — The Swiss National Bank will be allowed to sell as much as 1,300 metric tons of gold, half its gold reserves, if Swiss voters and the parliament agree to dissolve the Swiss franc's peg to gold, the government said.

The SNB, the world's fifth-largest holder of gold, needs to keep reserves of about 1,300 tons to conduct monetary policy, the government said.

The cabinet yesterday approved a draft change to the constitution that will end the franc's peg to gold. The SNB is legally barred from selling gold until legislators and voters approve the change, which the government said isn't likely before June 1999.

Spot gold fell as much as 1.1 percent to a two-month low of \$291.65 an ounce in London. The proposed change to Swiss gold policy comes at a time when concern over central banks want to unload their holdings of the metal, helping keep gold near the 18-year low of \$376.57 an ounce it fell to in January.

Australia, Argentina and the Netherlands said last year they sold \$4.3 billion in gold in order to invest in fixed-income securities, which can offer higher returns.

The Swiss government's statement came after a government-appointed panel's recommendation in October that the SNB sell as much as 1,400 tons of gold reserves.

Romania open to Israeli investors

By NINA GILBERT

The Romanian government is to sell all of its holdings in more than 2,000 companies by the end of the year, in a process that is to be open to foreign investors, including those from Israel, according to officials at the Romanian Embassy here.

"Israeli investors will likely be most interested in companies involved in telecommunications, such as the national phone company RomTelcom, but also in real estate and agriculture," said Dorin Refea, the embassy's economic attaché.

There is money to be made by investors who can successfully implement modernization of technology used in Romanian companies, he added. Romania has the advantage of a relatively large population of 23 million and a technically trained workforce, he said.

In the first phase of privatization carried out several years ago, the government gave shares in the companies to the entire population.

The officials also said they expected the number of Romanian workers in Israel, presently some 60,000 here legally, to decrease with the improvement of the Romanian economy, which is expected to get a boost from the privatization program.

Meanwhile, Elbit Systems yesterday announced the first successful test flight of an IAR 330 helicopter it upgraded as part of a \$100 million deal with the Romanian air force signed in 1996. The work is scheduled to be completed by 2001. The project is being carried out in coordination with the Romanian company IAR Brasov.

The upgraded IAR 330 will be able to perform anti-armor defense missions, close air support, and reconnaissance, in addition to transport missions.

The Haifa-based Elbit is involved in a range of defense-related programs throughout the world. The company focuses on upgrading existing military platforms and developing new technologies for defense applications.

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Teva buys Dutch drug company

By NINA GILBERT

Teva Pharmaceutical Industries announced yesterday that it has reached an agreement with the Dutch OPG Group for the purchase of its Pharmachemie group, a producer of generic drugs, for \$87 million in cash.

The Jerusalem-based company, the country's largest pharmaceutical producer, said the acquisition is expected to boost its sales in Europe and its production and product development, especially in the field of cancer treatment.

Pharmachemie's sales in the past year totaled some \$130 million, mostly to the Dutch market, where it holds a 40 percent share.

In a statement to the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, Teva said that after a transition period, it expects the acquisition to have a positive impact on its 1999 results.

Pharmachemie has two production facilities, one of which has approval from the US Food and Drug Administration, and also has sales networks in Belgium, Germany and South Africa.

The OPG group is the Netherlands' largest pharmaceutical wholesaler, with annual sales of \$1.2 billion. It is Pharmachemie's largest client, and Teva said the long-term supply agreement between OPG and Pharmachemie will remain in force.

Teva also has production facilities in Germany, Hungary, the UK, Italy and France.

Soletron to open office here

By DAVID HARRIS

California-based Soletron Corporation said yesterday it will open a representative office in Petah Tikva.

Founded in 1977, the company is the world's second largest provider of contract manufacturing services to equipment makers. It builds electronic systems and subsystems for the avionics, computers, communications, semiconductor, instrumentation and consumer electronics industries.

With net income of \$3.7 billion last year, the company is moving into the domestic market with the intention of increasing sales here and offering advice in the high-tech sector.

"Soletron sees a great deal of potential as yet untapped in the Israeli market," said company president Koichi Nishimura. "This will help us sink roots in the region and make us attractive to our customers and our leading partners."

A Soletron spokeswoman here said yesterday the company is considering expanding its interests here, dependent on the success of its first venture.

"For the time being they'll only market in Israel, but if they see there's a big market and that it pays for them, they will also open production facilities in the country," she said. "This is in the planning but depends on demand."

The company employs some 21,000 workers at 21 international production sites.

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**INTERNATIONAL
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هذا من الامثلة

CRITICS' CHOICE

ISRAEL FESTIVAL

American soprano Kathleen Battle performs a recital with Roger Vignoles at the piano, Sunday (9:30) at the Jerusalem International Convention Center.

Michael Aizenstadt

Greek superstar singer Eleftheria Arvanitaki makes her debut visit to Israel to sing the songs of her native land, where she attracts 200,000 people to her concerts. She'll be backed by her own band. Two hours with no intermission, tonight at the Jerusalem International Convention Center at 8:30 p.m.

Mitzvah, a neologism meaning both "meetings" and "bridges" is a program of Yiddish and Ladino songs sung by the Hora Jerusalem Choir tomorrow in Rebecca Crown at 2:30 p.m.

ENGLISH THEATER

HELEN KAYE

The Ra'anana-based Guild Theater features an evening of one-act plays by Jodi Schenk. *Once Through* is about the budding romance between a widower and a widow at the rehearsal for their children's wedding. It won the Doris Kersner Best Production award at the Pessah drama festival. The second play is *Little Rainbow*, set in an apartment where two sisters are going through their dead mother's things. Tonight at the Center Stage Theater at Mercat Hamagshimim at 8:30 p.m.

DANCE

HELEN KAYE

Rami Be'eri's acclaimed *Aide Memoire* beautifully performed by the Kibbutz Dance Company is at the Suzanne Dellal Dance Center for two performances only. Tonight at 9 and tomorrow at 10 p.m.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AIZENSTADT

The Abu Ghosh Vocal Music Festival opens tomorrow and continues through Sunday with 12 different programs presented in the serene Arab village's various churches. Among the highlights are the Durufle requiem (Saturday at 8 p.m.),



American soprano Kathleen Battle sings in Jerusalem.

Mozart's Coronation Mass (Sunday at 4 p.m.), the Brahms Deutsche Requiem in its original version for two pianos with the Ramat Gan Chamber Choir (Sunday at 8 p.m.) and a sing-along version of Elijah (tomorrow at 8:30 p.m.).

TELEVISION

ELANA CHIPMAN

The Border Line is a six part documentary series which debuted on Channel 2 last week. The series is an "anthology of peace in the making", dealing with the peace process, from the Oslo agreements to the present. Each film was produced by a well-known documentary director, such as Lena Chaplin, Micha Shagrir, Reuven Hacker and Amnon Teitelbaum.

This week's episode, at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, is titled "Stitches in the Seam." The film traces 15 months in the lives of four men in the Sharon region. Despite being worlds apart from each other in religion, language and ideology, their day-to-day concerns for their families, livelihood and the future are strikingly similar.

TV

CHANNEL 1 (11)

6:30 News Flash
6:31 News in Arabic
6:45 Good Morning Israel

EDUCATIONAL TV (11)

8:00 Jewish Sciences
8:30 Crossroad Calls
9:00 Reading
9:25 English
9:40 Nature
10:00 Programs for the very young
11:00 Geography
12:00 Social Science
12:30 History
13:30 Animation
15:05 Secret Matters

CHANNEL 1 (11)

15:30 Eile and Lily and Zep
16:00 X Men
16:00 Bykay Grove
16:30 The Prince and the Pauper
16:50 News Evening
17:34 Click
18:15 News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS

18:30 Encounter
19:00 News

HEBREW PROGRAMS

18:30 News Flash
19:31 Local Hits
19:53 Film in the Street
20:00 News
20:45 50 Years of Sport - celebration of the country's 50 best sportsmen and women over
22:00 Press Conference
22:30 Where Were We?
23:00 News
00:00 Time For Language

CHANNEL 2 (22)

5:45 Today's programs
5:55 On the Edge of the Sea
6:30 The Rainbow Children
6:50 Rikva Michaeli
6:55 Rich Man, Poor Man
10:00 Dynasty
11:40 French Atlantic
12:00 Genie and the Captain
12:30 My Secret Identity
13:30 Eli & Jules
14:00 Home and Away
14:30 Tick Tack
15:00 Major Dad
15:27 Roseanne
16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
16:30 Different Driving
17:00 Five with Rachel
17:30 Gillette World Cup Special
18:00 The World's Dumbest Criminals
18:10 Jenny
18:40 Spin City
19:05 Bill Clinton
19:30 The Vampire Slayer
20:00 News
20:30 Shemesh
21:05 Only in Israel
21:30 Tick Tack
22:50 Wall Street - a young Wall Street stockbroker finds a quick way to scale the heights of his profession. With Michael Douglas in an Oscar-winning performance
23:00 Charlie Sheen and Daryl Hannah
00:00 News
00:05 Wall Street - cont.
1:27 The Prize - last-moving thriller stars Paul Newman as a Nobel Prize winner who sets out to solve a plot connected to the upcoming awards ceremony. With Eric Roberts and Edward G. Robinson
3:30 On the Edge of the Sea

CHANNEL 3

7:00 Seeing Stars: Women Role Models
8:00 Cadeaux
9:00 One Life to Live
9:45 The Young and the Restless
10:30 The Young and the Restless
11:15 Duke Area (rpt)
12:00 Love Boat
12:45 Hart to Hart
13:30 The Young and the Restless
14:00 Bewitched
14:25 I Dream of Jeannie
15:00 Days of Our Lives
15:30 Judge Judy
16:00 Duke Area
16:45 One Life to Live
17:30 The Other Half
18:00 Trivia Game (rpt)
18:30 The Young and the Restless
19:00 The Young and the Restless
19:40 Beverly Hills
20:00 Cadeaux
20:25 Hip-Hop
21:10 Xena, the Warrior Princess
21:30 The Young and the Restless
22:30 Seinfeld
23:00 Ricki Lake
23:45 Law and Order
24:00 The Young and the Restless
1:20 Love Boat

JORDAN TV (21)

(unconfirmed)
14:00 Holy Koran

2-10 TV Women

3:00 The Courtship

MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

11:30 Murder on the Rio Grande (1933) - a ruffian trip turns into nightmare when a couple are ambushed by drug dealers

12:10 The Story of Vernon and Irene Castle (1929) - Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers portray famous turn-of-the-century dancers

12:50 From Love: Stories about Israeli Cinema - guests tell about their behind the scenes experiences making Israeli movies

13:30 Innocent Victims - TV mini-drama based on the true events of the trial of a young suspect, accused of killing a mother and two daughters

14:30 A Thousand and One Wives (Hebrew, 1989) - Michael Ben-David's adaptation of a short story by Dan Benayahu-Serri. A two-time widower becomes convinced he is cursed and refuses to sleep with his virgin third wife. With Yossi Polack

15:30 Seizing Stars: Nicholas Cage

21:10 Nida

22:10 A Cop Called Suspicion (1994) - a cop parodied by a stray bullet suggests to his wife and mother-in-law that they help him die and collect the insurance. With Christopher Reeve and Marisa Tomei

23:35 Love Crimes (1992) - erotic thriller

1:05 Tropical Nights (1992) - erotic thriller

1:35 The Cold Room (1994, 80 mins.) - a writer travels to East Germany and finds himself involved in intrigue

2:05 The Making of Der Prinz von Homburg (1925) - silent film

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PRIME TIME TV

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
19:30 News Flash Local Hits Filmed in the Street	News	Beverly Hills 90210	Hercules	Seeing Stars	Married with Children Fresh Prince of Bel Air Full House	Plants and People	Wild Film
20:00 50 Years of Sport	Only in Israel	Xena the Warrior Princess	Nikita	Sweet Valley High	The Churchills		
21:00 Press Conference	Wall Street	Med About You	Seinfeld	Above Suspicion	The Greatest Show on Earth	Victoria and Albert	Cousteau
22:00							
23:00							

22:50 The Man with the Golden Arm (1955) - still timely expose of drug addiction, starring Frank Sinatra as a heroin addict, addicted singer. Directed by Otto Preminger. With Eleanor Parker and Kim Novak

00:00 Late Night with Conan O'Brien

1:00 The Tonight Show

1:30 NBC Nightly News

2:00 Tonight Show (rpt)

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Inside

Red Wings, Stars level at 1-1

Page 18

Sports Editors
Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

Reds beat Giants 7-5

CINCINNATI (AP) — Bret Boone's two-out, two-run double in the eighth inning rallied the shuffling Cincinnati Reds over the San Francisco Giants 7-5 victory yesterday.

Brian Johnson and Barry Bonds hit two-run homers as the Giants took a 5-2 lead after six innings, but the Reds pulled off a rare comeback against the league's toughest bullpen.

Reggie Sanders' two-run homer off starter Mark Gardner cut it to 5-4 in the seventh, and the Reds pulled it out by batting around in the eighth against Jim Poole (1-2), Julian Tavarez and Steve Reed.

The Giants' bullpen began the inning with a 1.99 ERA, the best in the majors.

Barry Larkin started the rally with a single, his third hit of the game, and Dmitri Young singled one out later. Larkin got caught in a rundown between third and home on Willie Greene's grounder, allowing the runners to move up to second and third.

Tavarez came on, worked Boone to a full count and then gave up a go-ahead double, only the Reds' second hit in their last 22 at-bats with runners in scoring position. Chris Stynes added a pinch RBI single, putting the Reds in position for only their third victory in 12 games.

Scott Sullivan (1-2) pitched out of a two-on, no-outs threat in the eighth, and Jeff Shaw pitched a perfect ninth for his 15th save in 19 chances.

Left-hander Eddie Priest, who was pitching in Class A a year ago, made his major league debut and got hit hard his second time through the Giants' lineup.

See Tuesday's baseball roundup, Page 18

Sampras out of French Open

PARIS (AP) — Pete Sampras' quest to win the one Grand Slam title that eludes him failed yet again yesterday, with a straight-set, second-round loss to 97th-ranked Ramon Delgado of Paraguay, 7-6 (8-6), 6-3, 6-4.

After a tough first set, the world's No. 1 player never regained his form on the red clay, his worst surface. He was out-played at the baseline and out-served by Delgado.

Sampras double-faulted six times, to only one by Delgado. The Paraguayan had 12 aces, to Sampras' 10.

Smashnova wins

Israel's Anna Smashnova beat Emmanuelle Gagliardi of Switzerland, 5-7, 6-0, 6-1 yesterday to set up a third-round meeting with Germany's Barbara Rittner, who beat Naoko Sawamatsu of Japan, 6-3, 6-4.

If she manages to beat Rittner, it would see the Israeli repeat her best-ever showing at Roland Garros, a fourth-round berth achieved in 1995. This time, the fourth round clash would probably be against world No. 1 Martina Hingis.

The loss meant that after only three days of play, the French Open is now without its top two seeds. No. 2 seed Petr Korda was upset Tuesday by another South American, Argentine Mariano Zabaleta.

"This is a dream," Delgado said on French TV immediately after the match. "I worked all my life for a victory like this." In the third set, Sampras was broken twice, for 4-1. He broke back for 4-2 — only his second break of the match — and held for 4-3. The players stayed on serve after that, and Delgado served for the match at 5-4.

The match ended on a netted backhand by Sampras. Delgado knelt in joy



A CHAMPION FALLS — Pete Sampras recovers from a fall during a rally with Ramon Delgado in Paris yesterday.

ing Ai Sugiyama of Japan 6-0, 6-2. It only took one more game for Williams' potential quarterfinal opponent, top-seeded Martina Hingis, to advance.

Hingis easily beat Meike Babel of Germany 6-1, 6-2.

Sugiyama, ranked 19th in the world and Japan's best player, didn't hold serve once. But she did break Williams twice in the second set.

Williams, the No. 8 seed, is vastly improved since she first played the

French Open last year. "I think my footwork was very good," she said. "I was in position and it was hard for her to get balls past me. ... If my footwork is there, it's extremely hard to beat me. That's what I was really happy with." She even tried to speak a little French. "Je suis Parisienne," she said on French TV.

Like Williams, Hingis also relied on drop shots, one of her best weapons. Her opponent tried them as well, but Hingis usually got to them.

On a day marked by intermittent rain delays, the men's No. 3 seed, Marcelo Rios of Chile, had no trouble with Emilio Alvarez of Spain, winning 6-4, 6-2, 6-2, to advance to the third round.

And his counterpart on the women's side, No. 3 Jana Novotna, downed Emilie Loit of France 7-5, 6-0.

But two-time champion Jim Courier lost badly to Jens Knippschild of Germany, 6-4, 6-2, 6-2.

England too strong for Morocco

By MIKE COLLETT

CASABLANCA (Reuters) — England's build-up to the World Cup finals moved up a gear yesterday when they beat a determined but ultimately ineffective Morocco 1-0 in the opening match of the King Hassan II Cup.

The only goal of a match which improved markedly in the second half came when 18-year-old Michael Owen, winning only his fourth cap as a 26th minute substitute for the injured Ian Wright, beat goalkeeper Driss Benzekri with a well-placed shot after brushing off the challenge of defender Abdelkarim El Hadrioui.

It was Owen's first goal for his country and was taken with an ice-cold nerve that has marked the youngest England player this century as a potential great.

Morocco, who face Norway, Brazil and Scotland in the World Cup, and who had won their previous nine home matches, looked dangerous in patches and went close to an equalizer in the dying minutes, especially when substitute Ghrib Amzine headed narrowly over the bar with only goalkeeper Tim Flowers to beat.

Overall, however, they were usually second-best against the visitors. England coach Glenn Hoddle, made nine changes from the team which drew 0-0 with Saudi Arabia at Wembley last Saturday and there were some good performances, most notably from Sol Campbell and Gareth Southgate at the heart of the England defence and Darren Anderton in midfield.

Hoddle also gave playmaker Paul Gascoigne, celebrating his 31st birthday, the chance to show his fitness level over 90 minutes and although he had an erratic match, he did display several flashes of his old skill and could have scored twice late in the game.

By that time the wildly passionate 90,000 crowd, who had filled the stadium to capacity fully two hours before kickoff on a hot and humid afternoon, had taken to jeering their team — or else were suffering in relative silence.

Neither team could be satisfied after a poor opening 45 minutes in which not one single scoring chance or shot on target was created.

The nearest attempt came after only three minutes when Moroccan's pacy right-back El Hadrioui powered a 30-meter free



Michael Owen celebrates after scoring England's winner against Morocco in Casablanca yesterday.

kick narrowly wide.

Apart from that both, teams appeared content to try and win superiority in midfield.

With Gascoigne losing the ball with some regularity in the opening period and Steve McNamara appearing to be disengaged from the contest, Morocco looked the more incisive in midfield.

Youssef Chippo and Rachid Rokki managed to find space and time for themselves but rarely looked like breaching the England defence.

Wright's involvement ended after 24 minutes when he pulled up with a hamstring strain that seriously threatens his chance of making the final 22.

Owen came on but was also soon in some pain of his own.

Chasing a through ball from Graeme Le Saux, he collided with goalkeeper Benzekri and was knocked out.

"I don't remember any of the first half but I remember my goal," he said. England settled after the goal and

never looked like losing.

Hoddle was delighted with the contribution of Owen, who is now pressing for a place in the coach's first-choice lineup.

Asked if the goal had secured the teenager's place in the squad, Hoddle replied: "Who said I was ever going to leave him out?" Hoddle had chosen to play Morocco as preparation for England's opening World Cup match against another north African side, Tunisia, and was happy with the decision.

"It was a good exercise for us," said the coach. "We had to weather a storm early on but it was a good experience." Moroccan coach Hani Michel would not have been impressed with the wayward shooting of his forwards who were guilty of wasting what few chances that came their way after the break.

Both teams will be back in action at the same Mohammed V Stadium tomorrow when England face Belgium and Morocco play France.

'Palestine' become new FIFA members

ZURICH (Reuters) — FIFA's executive committee approved membership applications from six countries, including "Palestine," yesterday but failed to decide on voting procedures for its presidential election next month.

In their Zurich meeting, the committee welcomed aboard Palestine and Mongolia (Asia), Eritrea (Africa), Turks and Caicos and the US Virgin Islands (CONCACAF) and American Samoa (Oceania).

But disagreement over voting procedures during the six-and-a-half hour meeting led FIFA president Joao Havelange to declare that the final decision should be taken up by the full congress when it meets on June 8.

"Since we didn't come to an agreement I decided that we take the whole thing to the congress and let them decide," Havelange said at a news conference.

FIFA's secretary-general Sepp Blatter and UEFA president Lennart Johansson are fighting it out in the battle to succeed Brazil's Havelange. The poll takes place on June 8, two days before the start of the World Cup.

The FIFA executives said two voting alternatives were discussed at the meeting.

The first, which Havelange favored, was the system used in 1974 when he was elected whereby each delegation is given a voting form in a booth.

"The voting system was imposed upon me. Why should we change tradition," Havelange said.

He said the second recommendation, supported by committee members from Africa and Oceania, called for each delegation to choose whether to vote in a booth or at their seats in the congress hall.

Havelange also said that regardless of the outcome of the controversy he was sticking to his plan to retire.

"I will go home on the 13th of July," he said.

The committee also decided yesterday to propose a change to its statutes that would require both national associations to give their consent in cases where a club wishes to be based in one country while playing in a competition of another.

This was in response to attempts by English premier league side Wimbledon and Scotland's Clydebank to base themselves in Dublin.

None of the three associations involved were happy with the idea and FIFA's latest move seems to have put an end to the issue.

Norway swamp nine-man Saudi Arabia 6-0

MOLDE, Norway (Reuters) — Norway swamped Saudi Arabia 6-0 in a World Cup warm-up match yesterday marked by the sending-off of two Saudi players.

"I'm happy but the game was pretty much ruined by the red cards," Norwegian coach Egil Olsen said after Norway's last game before the World Cup had extended their unbeaten run to 14 games. "It's not much of a test to play against nine men."

Fellow World Cup finalists Saudi Arabia were all but beaten after the sending-off of Saudi goalkeeper Mohammed Al-Daye and Mohammed Al-Khlaiwi in the first half, both for fouls on Norway's Ole Gunnar Solskjaer.

The win means Norway, who have rocketed to success under Olsen, go to the World Cup finals next month with an unbeaten record stretching back to January 1997 and unbeaten at home since 1991.

Solskjaer bolstered his chances of inclusion in Norway's 22-man squad with two goals. Olsen has said that the striker is not certain to go after a rocky season at Manchester United.

Two other warm-up matches yesterday both ended goalless when Finland and Germany met in Helsinki and the Netherlands and Cameroon played in Amsterdam.

In a friendly international between two teams not playing in France, Poland beat Russia 3-1 in Chorzow.

Saqlain hat-trick boosts Cup holders Surrey

LONDON (Reuters) — Pakistan off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq boosted Benson and Hedges Cup holders Surrey with a hat-trick in their quarter-final against Lancashire at The Oval yesterday.

Saqlain snapped up Lancashire's last three wickets with the second, third and fourth deliveries of the 50th and last over to complete a fine Surrey fightback in the rain-hit tie.

The Pakistan's hat-trick, the 11th in the 26-year history of the competition, helped to send Lancashire tumbling from 148 for one to 203 all out.

England opener Michael Atherton had played a key role in Lancashire's splendid start by scor-

ing 93 from 109 deliveries.

Surrey replied with 35 for no wicket off eight overs before the close. The match continues today.

Leicestershire and Yorkshire won their quarter-finals decisively.

Leicestershire were surprisingly easy winners at home to Kent, last year's runners-up, who were dismissed for only 158.

West ladies all-rounder Carl Hooper was Kent's top scorer with 60 as Trinidadian Phil Simmons took five for 33 in nine overs.

Simmons then helped England Test candidate Darren Maddy (93 not out) steer Leicestershire home with eight wickets and more than 12 overs

to spare.

Yorkshire beat Durham by 102 runs at Headingley to repeat their victory over the same opponents in the group stage of the competition.

Yorkshire recovered from a shaky start which left them at two for two. Australian Darren Lehmann (119) and Michael Vaughan (70) led the revival, and the final score of 269 for five was well beyond the reach of Durham, who were appearing in the quarter-final for the first time.

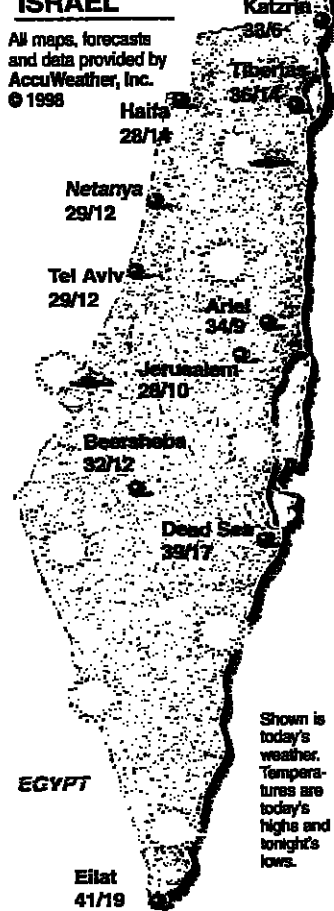
In the other tie, also hit by rain, Essex made 232 for nine off their 50 overs against Middlesex at Lord's with teenager Stephen Peters making his best score for the county, an unbeaten 58.

AIR CANADA

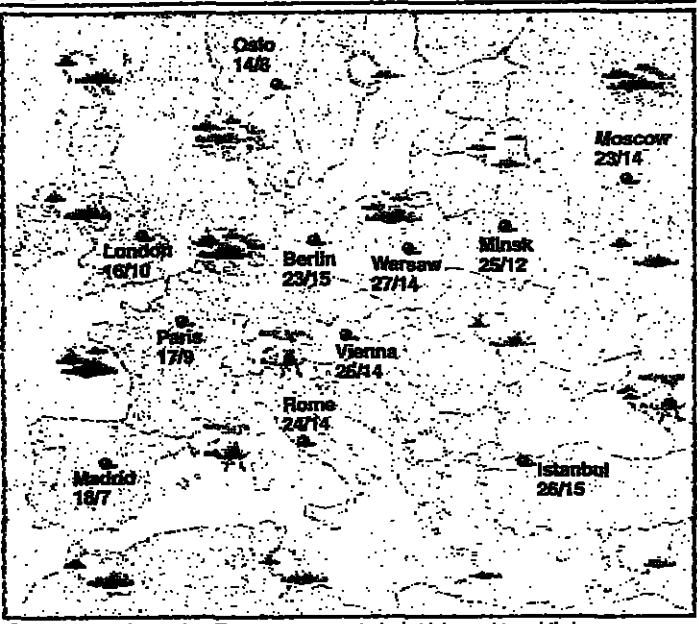
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THE WEATHER

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EUROPE WEATHER TODAY



Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

ISRAEL CITIES

City	Today	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Afula	34/50	34/50	34/50	34/50	34/50
Beersheva	32/50	32/50	32/50	32/50	32/50
Dead Sea	39/102	39/102	39/102	39/102	39/102
Eilat	41/106	41/106	41/106	41/106	41/106
Haifa	28/32	28/32	28/32	28/32	28/32
Jerusalem	28/32	28/32	28/32	28/32	28/32
Kfar Saba	32/50	32/50	32/50	32/50	32/50
Netanya	32/50	32/50	32/50	32/50	32/50
Tel Aviv	28/32	28/32	28/32	28/32	28/32
Trafalet	32/50	32/50	32/50	32/50	32/50

Weather (W) = sunny, partly cloudy, cloudy, drizzle, showers, thunderstorms, rain, snow, sleet, fog, ice.

INTERNATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Amsterdam	17/22	17/22	17/22	17/22	17/22
Berlin	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17
Buenos Aires	18/24	18/24	18/24	18/24	18/24
Chicago	32/81	32/81	32/81	32/81	32/81
Frankfurt	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17
Hong Kong	28/24	28/24	28/24	28/24	28/24
Los Angeles	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17
London	18/24	18/24	18/24	18/24	18/24
Madrid	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17
Moscow	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17
New York	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17
Paris	18/24	18/24	18/24	18/24	18/24
Rio de Janeiro	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17
Rome	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17
Sydney	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17
Tokyo	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17
Toronto	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17
Vancouver	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17
Washington	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17
Zurich	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17	22/17

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

